



# Career Options

NOVA SCOTIA

An  
Occupational  
Handbook  
for  
Nova  
Scotians

2006/2007



[novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca)

STRENGTH THROUGH  
**Skills & Learning**







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An Occupational Handbook for Nova Scotians  
2006/2007 Edition

Labour market and employment requirements are subject to change, and it is recommended that the reader verify the information before making any career decisions.

Please visit [novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca) for the most current and detailed information.

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Details on data sources and methodology can be found at [novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca)

# Welcome to *Career* Options

An Occupational Handbook for Nova Scotians



Browse through the handbook and see what catches your eye. The handbook describes over 270 careers for Nova Scotians. For each career, the handbook will explain what the work is like; the education, training and experience you need to do the work; your chances of finding a job in that occupation, and the average salary.

If you want more information on careers that interest you....  
Visit **novascotiacaareeroptions.ca**

The Career Options website has expanded information on every career in this handbook, and includes information on management and supervisory careers.

Go to [novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca) and search for each career you want to know more about. You will find

**More labour market information**

Minimum and maximum earnings  
Where in Nova Scotia these jobs are found  
The education levels of people who do this work  
And more

**Information on training programs**

For every career choice, there is a list of the related training or education opportunities for Nova Scotians.

Find links or contact information for related associations or licensing bodies

**Check out**

CORI, a multimedia overview of career planning and Nova Scotia's labour market

"Related Sites" Career-planning website guides to help you navigate web-based career-planning and labour market information

"Resource Library" Print out forms to help guide your career search or review one of the Career Guides

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# Career Exploration and Planning



*Not sure what  
occupation is right  
for you?*

This handbook is intended  
for use with the Career  
Options website,

[novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca)

Together these resources  
can help you make informed  
decisions, provide you with a list  
of options and enable you to  
find work that is a good fit  
for you.

You might start by completing  
one or more self-assessment  
quizzes to be found at the  
Career Options website, which  
will provide you with a list of  
occupations that you might  
like to investigate.

In addition to the information  
in the handbook, the Career  
Options website provides  
additional information for  
each occupation, including  
available education or training  
programs and contacts for  
further information.



## **Career Planning – What is it?**

*Career planning is a process.*

*Begin by identifying your skills, interests, and other personal factors. Next, explore opportunities. Then use what you learn to choose an occupation that is a good match. Career planning is a life-long process of preparing to make not one, but many decisions. Making informed decisions, setting short and long-term goals, and taking the steps to achieve these goals will provide you with a road map for a successful career.*

The process of career exploration and planning includes the following steps:

### **Step 1**

**Know Yourself**

### **Step 2**

**Know What's Out There**

### **Step 3**

**Make an Informed  
Decision – Assess Your Idea**

### **Step 4**

**Create an Action Plan  
– How To Get There**



*Know Yourself*  
**Know** What's Out There  
*Make an Informed Decision*  
**Action Plan**

# Step 1

## Know Yourself

*The first step in career exploration is discovering who you are. You do that by identifying your values, interests, and skills. This information will give you a foundation for making your career and life decisions. You need to know what you want in your work and life, and what you have to offer a prospective employer.*

### Ask yourself

- What's important to me?
- What do I do well?
- What skills have I developed?
- What type of work environment would I like to be in?

The constantly changing work world means that you must continually ensure your "marketability." By going through the process of identifying your skills, aptitudes, and abilities you will

- have a better understanding of what you have to offer potential employers
- recognize your own strengths and preferences

*You need to know what you want in your work and life, and what you have to offer a prospective employer.*



# Step 2

## Know What's Out There

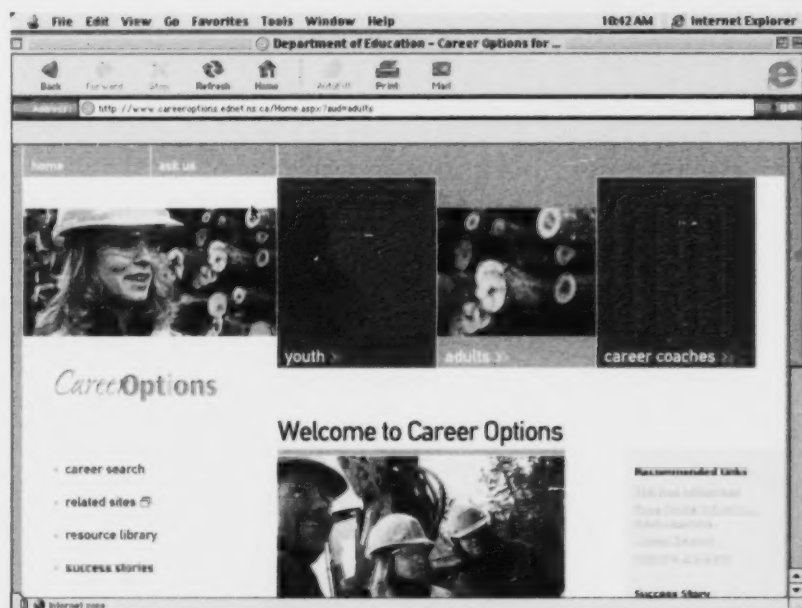
*You need to know what occupations and opportunities are out there and what employment trends may affect your career planning.*

### Occupational Research and Labour Market Information – Why is it important?

Once you have a list of occupations that interest you, you will need to find out more about them:

- What is the work actually like?
- What are the working conditions, hours, and wages for this job?
- What are the opportunities for getting a job in your area? Is the work seasonal, casual, full-time?
- What skills and experience are required for this job?

These questions need to be answered to help you make an informed decision. Without this information, you may find yourself in an occupation that doesn't suit your interests, values, or lifestyle. Exploring occupations and researching industries may help you discover other interest areas and opportunities you hadn't even considered.



It is very important to research the labour market where you want to work, so that you are aware of the opportunities, outlooks, and employment trends in that area. Jobs that may be readily available in one part of the province, such as Halifax, may not exist in other regions, such as Cape Breton. Research the employers in the area to find out who is hiring employees in the occupations that interest you and what skills and abilities they are seeking. If you know what employers are looking for, you can better prepare your "marketing tools" for your job search – your résumé, cover letter, interview, and so forth.

### How can occupational research and labour market information help you make a career decision?

You may know of only one job that uses your skills and interests, but there could actually be several others you had never considered. Finding out what employment or business opportunities are available where you live – or areas where you are willing to work – will help you decide on the best career path for you.

If you discover that the opportunities for employment or markets are low, you may want to explore other options. Occupational research and labour market information will help you see the bigger picture.

# Occupational Research Chart

Occupation	Questions to ask yourself
<b>The Nature of the Work</b> [duties and responsibilities]	<p>Would I like doing this?</p> <p>How does it fit with my interests, values, and abilities?</p>
<b>Skills and Experience</b>	<p>What skills and experience do I have?</p> <p>How can I develop these skills or get experience?</p>
<b>Employment Requirements</b>	<p>Am I willing and able to get additional education and/or training needed to do this work?</p>
<b>Other Considerations</b> [hours of work, environment, physical demands, etc.]	<p>How do the working conditions fit with my personal and family needs/values?</p>
<b>Employment Outlooks</b>	<p>What is the outlook (good, fair, or limited)?</p> <p>What are the employment outlooks?</p> <p>What are the employment opportunities in this occupation?</p> <p>Are there opportunities to advance?</p>
<b>Potential Employers</b>	<p>Are these employers I would be interested in working for?</p> <p>Are there potential employers in the community or areas of the province where I want to work?</p>
<b>Average Earnings</b>	<p>How does these fit with my peronal and family needs?</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Other types of labour market information? (e.g. estimated change in employment)</p>

# Step 3

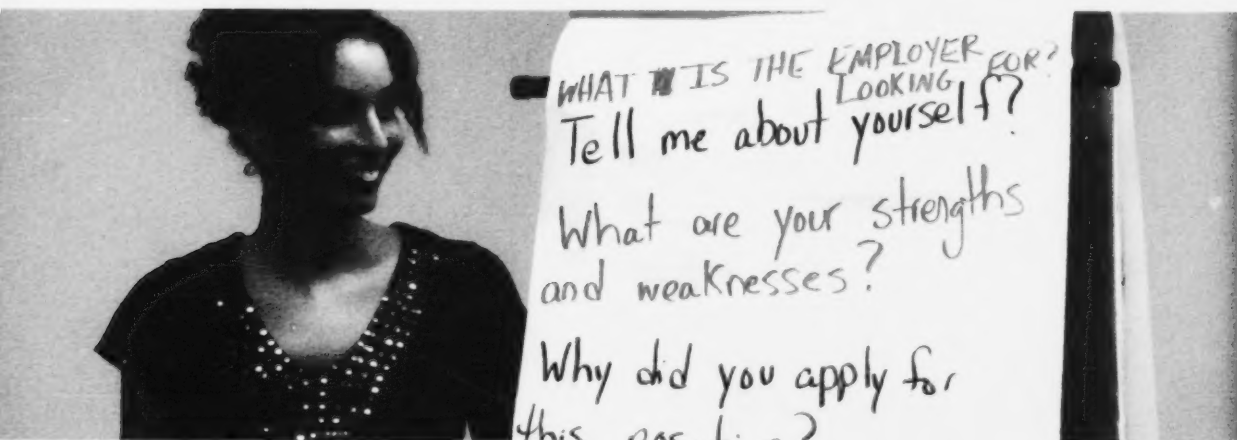
## Assessing Your Idea

### Make an Informed Decision

Now what? Once you have information about your interests, values, and skills, and have considered how they fit with the

labour market research you've done, you are in a good position to make an informed decision about which career is a good

match for you. When making a career decision, it's important to look at your interests and values, abilities, and opportunities.



*Career choices are not always cut and dried. An experienced career practitioner can help.*



#### Interests and Values

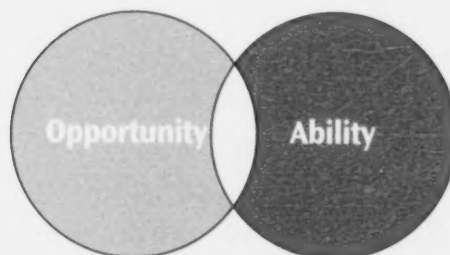
- Is there a fit between your career [business] idea and your values?
- Will you be motivated and enjoy this occupation?

#### Opportunity

- Is there opportunity for employment where you want to work [or a market for your business idea]?

#### Ability

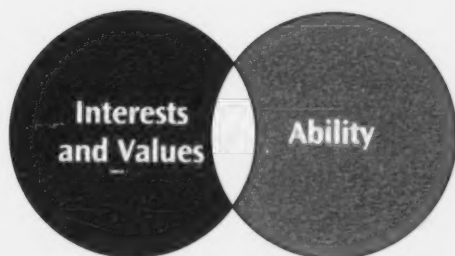
- Do you have the skills, abilities and experience required for this occupation.



Not the Best  
Long Term Choice

An opportunity exists and you have the skills and abilities but no interest in pursuing this path. Perhaps the path conflicts with your

values or lifestyle preferences. This work may provide you with little motivation or job satisfaction.

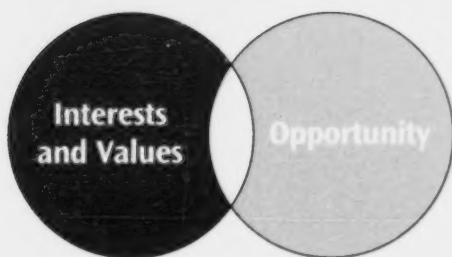


Hobby

Your interests and abilities do not connect with an opportunity. You may love what you want to do, but it doesn't have the potential to

create income. You have a great hobby idea. Are you sure you've done all your research and explored all opportunities?





### Skills Gap

Your interests and an opportunity are a good match but you currently have a skill gap. Formal or informal training is needed to enable you to

take advantage of this opportunity. Explore options for gaining the skill[s] you require.



### The Right Fit for You

This career [business] idea fits with your interests and values, you have the skills and ability, and there is an opportunity to make a reasonable income.

Career choices, of course, are not always this cut and dried. An experienced career practitioner can help. Remember, if opportunities are limited and following your heart won't pay the bills, you may need a short-term option that will allow you to balance work and your personal interests.

A long-term plan can help to prepare you for an occupation that will be a better fit with your interests.



# Step 4

## How do You get there? Create an Action Plan

*Now that you have identified your career objectives, you will need to create a plan of action – a road map to get you where you want to go.*

*Using what you know about your skills, abilities, and the experience required to gain employment in the occupation you've chosen, you can set long- and short-term goals to help you achieve your overall career goal. These goals should include any education, training, and experience you require, as well as your job search strategy.*

*Each new opportunity will open new doors and possibly create new interests.*

Because life is unpredictable, our career goals will change, perhaps several times, throughout our working lives. Each new opportunity will open new doors and possibly create new interests. As we live through transitions and changes in our lives, we will need to revisit, reassess, and revise our career goals. It is important to realize that career planning includes more than "work." Community involvement, volunteering, training and education, and personal experiences are also valuable roads along your career path.

### Action Planning

- What do you need to do to realize your career path?
- What action steps do you need to take?

### Goal Setting

- Once you have decided on the career path you want to pursue, you need to set some clear and achievable goals to make it a reality. Consider setting goals for the day, the week, the month, 3 months (short-term goals), 1 to 2 year goals (medium-term goals) or 3 to 5 years (long-term goals).

A goal could be that you will call several learning institutions or employers in the next week to set up informational interviews. To achieve this goal you would break it down into a

### "To Do" list:

- 1 Find learning institutions or employers you are interested in learning more about.
- 2 Get the names and numbers of persons you will need to contact.
- 3 Set aside time to make the calls and schedule the appointments.
- 4 Send follow-up thank you notes.
- 5 Have someone to talk to and reflect on what you've learned.

# Labour Market Information

How does it fit into career planning?

*The labour market is made up of employers and the workforce (people who either have a job or are looking for one).*

You can use labour market information [LMI] to

- understand the big picture – What the job-related trends are and where jobs are likely to be found.
- learn more about specific occupations. For example, how much do nurses make, and how many are expected to be hired in the next few years?
- identify the skills and training you need to get hired.
- labour market information can help you plan for success.

[LMI]

# Knowing about the BIG PICTURE will help you to...

## Recognize opportunities

Nova Scotia's labour market is much bigger than you think. There is plenty of opportunity, but you need to know where to look and how to prepare yourself. If you are looking for work, knowing more about Nova Scotia's labour market will help you answer questions such as "Where are the jobs?" "What skills do I need to get hired?"

If you are interested in starting your own business, labour market information can tell you which business sectors are growing and which skills are in demand.

## Know what skills are in demand

The workplace today has changed a great deal in the last 30, 20, and even 10 years. Employers are looking for new and different skills, even for those jobs that have been around for generations.

For example, not long ago, good mechanical skills would be enough to keep you working as an auto mechanic. Today, it's been said, the average car is more complicated than an MRI machine. Auto repair technicians often use sophisticated computers to diagnose problems. Since the customer can't see what the technician is doing, the technician will need good customer relations skills to win a customer's trust and confidence.

## THEN - employers looked for

- long-term commitment
- ability to take direction
- honesty

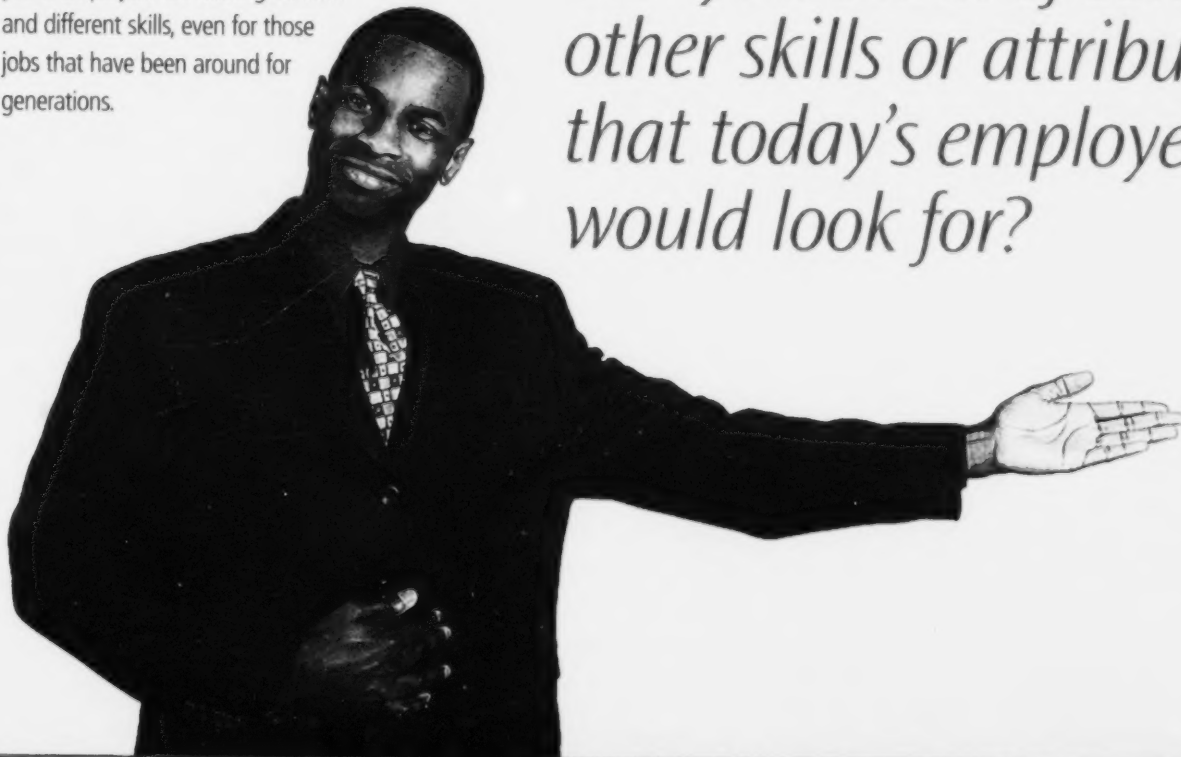
## NOW - employers look for

- flexibility
- ability to handle responsibility
- honesty

Can you think of some other skills or attributes that today's employers would look for? To stay employed in a changing labour market, you must know what employers are looking for and be open to learning and developing new skills.

*Exploring occupations that interest you will help you make the right career choices.*

*Can you think of some other skills or attributes that today's employers would look for?*



# Where are the Opportunities?



*More than 7,500 Nova Scotians might be expected to find jobs in any given month.*

## MYTHS

- You can't get a good job without a university degree.
- You have to leave Nova Scotia to get a well-paid job.
- The only real opportunities are for those with technology training or professional degrees.

## FACTS

- College diploma programs and trade certification are other choices that can lead to satisfying and well-paid employment.
- Approximately 2,600 new jobs will be created in Nova Scotia in the next year. In addition, around 12,000 jobs will open due to retirements and death. This means that 14,000 to 15,000 people will be able to join Nova Scotia's workforce each year.
- Salespersons, recruitment officers, advertising consultants, teachers, social workers, healthcare workers, and mechanics are some examples of occupations that are expected to be in high demand in the next few years.

## Are you trying to make a career choice?

If you are, there are two important things you need to consider: what you need from a job and what employers need in an employee. This can be a challenge. You might not know what career choices would be best for you. You need to know what skills employers look for and how to develop these skills. And, just to make things difficult, Nova Scotia's labour market continues to change. Some jobs are in decline, others are changing drastically, and some are expected to be in high demand in the next few years. That is why many people find themselves struggling to find success in today's labour market.

## Job Openings in Nova Scotia from Employment Growth and Turnover Due to Death and Retirements

DEATHS AND RETIREMENTS

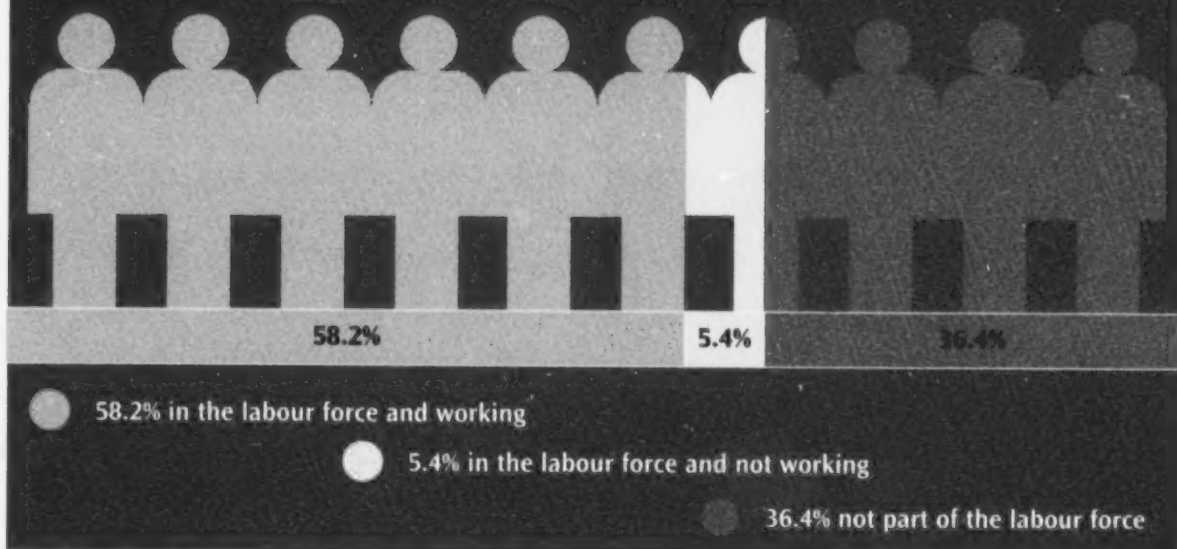
12,100

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH 2,600

ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS

Source: Service Canada/Nova Scotia Department of Education 2005

## The Nova Scotia Labour Market



Source: 2005 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, ages 15 and over

*Total number of Nova Scotians of working age in 2005: 760,700*



## Job Openings in Nova Scotia from Employment Growth and Turnover Due to Death and Retirements

DEATHS AND RETIREMENTS

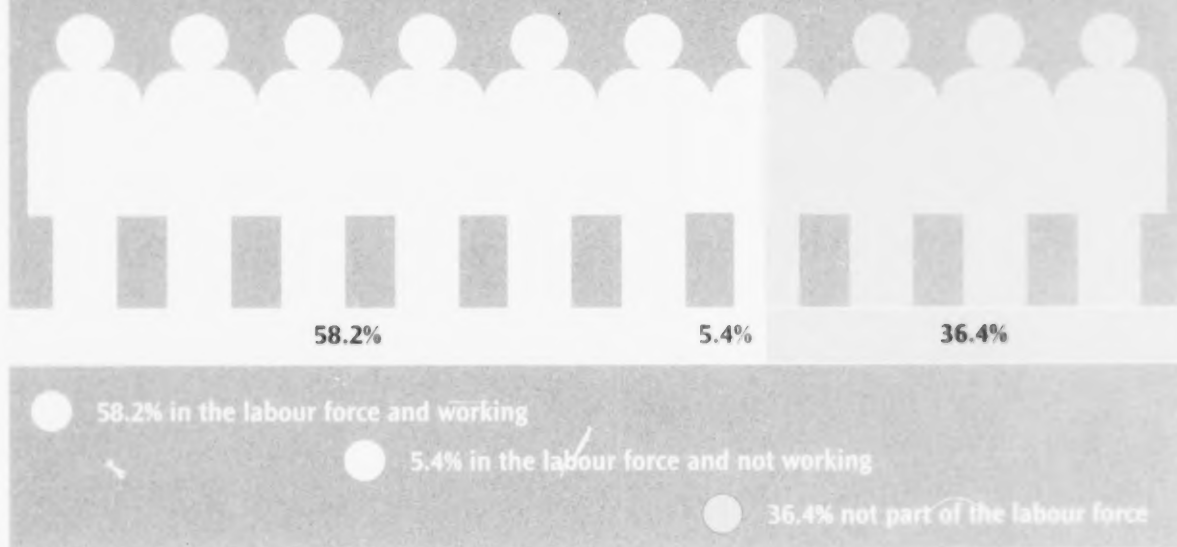
12,100

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ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS

Source: Service Canada/Nova Scotia Department of Education 2005

## The Nova Scotia Labour Market



Source: 2005 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, ages 15 and over

*Total number of Nova Scotians of working age in 2005: 760,700*

# Who's Working?

Education is key to getting and keeping a job

As you might expect, education is a real advantage in the job market.

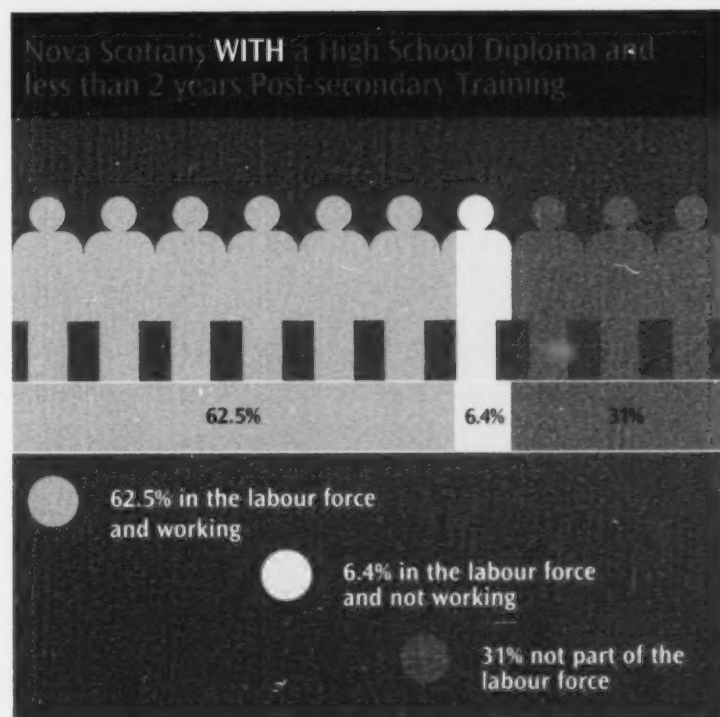
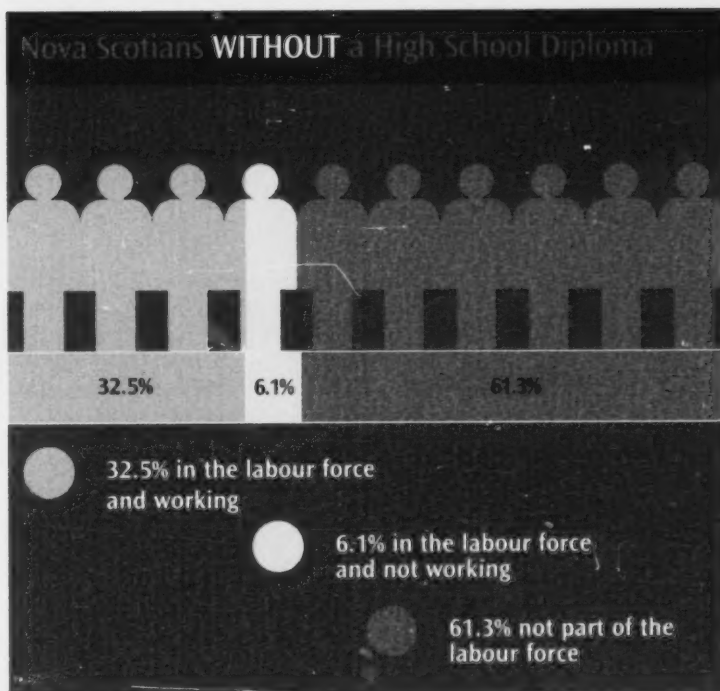
The number of jobs filled by those who had finished high school increased by about 16 percent between 1993 and 2004.

*A high school diploma is becoming the basic requirement to be part of the labour force.*

Most working-age Nova Scotians without a high school diploma are not even in the labour force. And those who are in the labour force are more likely to be unemployed.

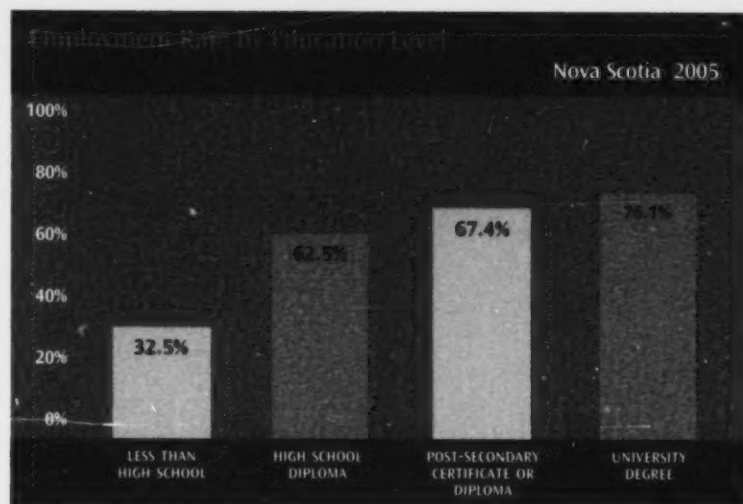
*High school dropouts had the highest rate of unemployment, almost 16 percent.*

The more education you have, the more likely you are to have a job.



Source: 2005 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, Age 15 and over



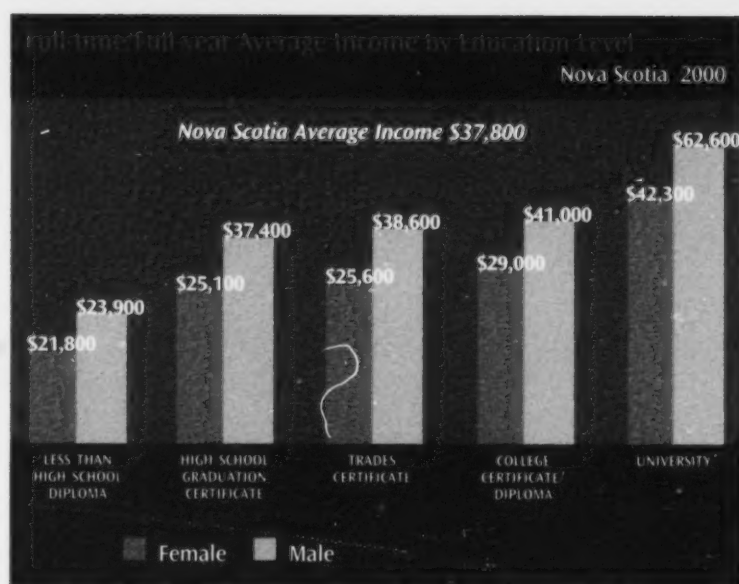


Source: 2005 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, Age 15 and over

### Why is education so important?

- Only 12 percent of the over 300 occupations described on the **Career Options** website are open to those without a high school diploma.
- Even if an occupation doesn't require a high school diploma to do the work, many employers choose to hire only high school graduates to do these jobs.
- An employment prospect of "limited" is more than twice as common in occupations that don't require high school completion. "Limited" means that the number of job opportunities is actually shrinking.
- More than seven out of ten (73 percent) of the occupations described in the Career Options website require some form of post-high school training. These tend to be the jobs with higher pay and more opportunity.

The more education you have, the more money you are likely to make.



Source: Census of Canada, Statistics Canada

*You've heard that  
education pays.  
Here's proof that it does.*

# Who's Working?

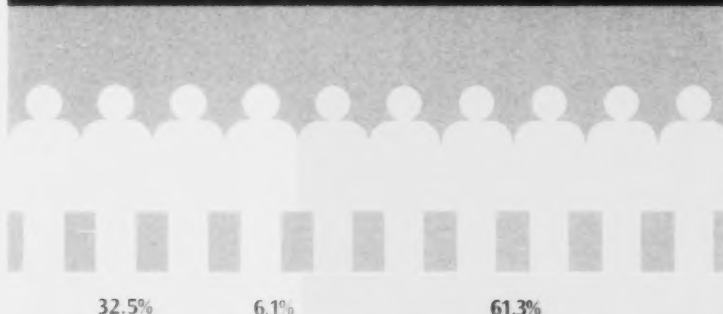
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The more education you have, the more likely you are to have a job.

## Nova Scotians WITHOUT a High School Diploma



32.5% in the labour force and working

6.1% in the labour force and not working

61.3% not part of the labour force

## Nova Scotians WITH a High School Diploma and less than 2 years Post-secondary Training



62.5% in the labour force and working

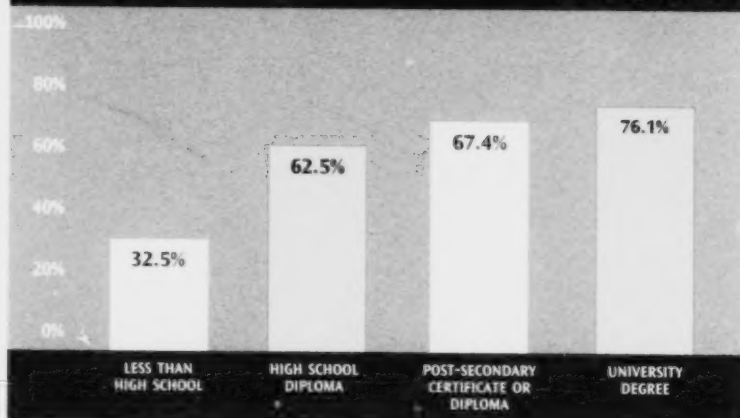
6.4% in the labour force and not working

31% not part of the labour force

Source: 2007 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, by Education

## Employment Rate by Education Level

Nova Scotia 2005



Source: 2005 Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, Age 15 and over

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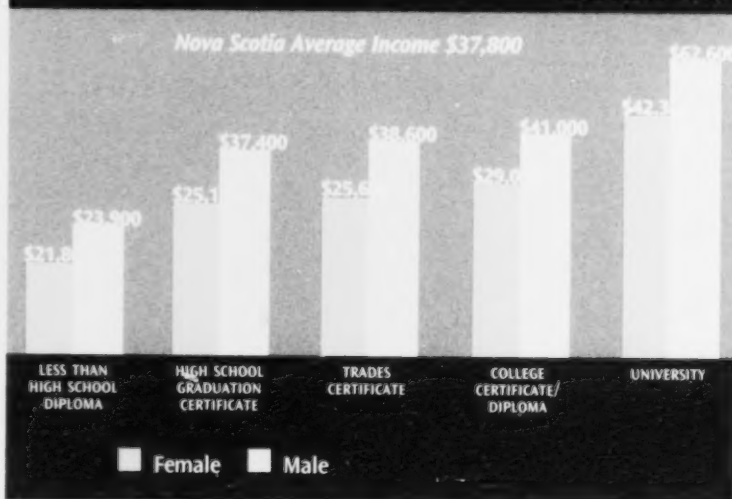
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## Full-time/Full-year Average Income by Education Level

Nova Scotia 2000



Source: Census of Canada, Statistics Canada

*You've heard that  
education pays.  
Here's proof that it does.*

### Employment rates vary across the province

Most job opportunities are in the Halifax region, which accounts for about 46 percent of the jobs in Nova Scotia.

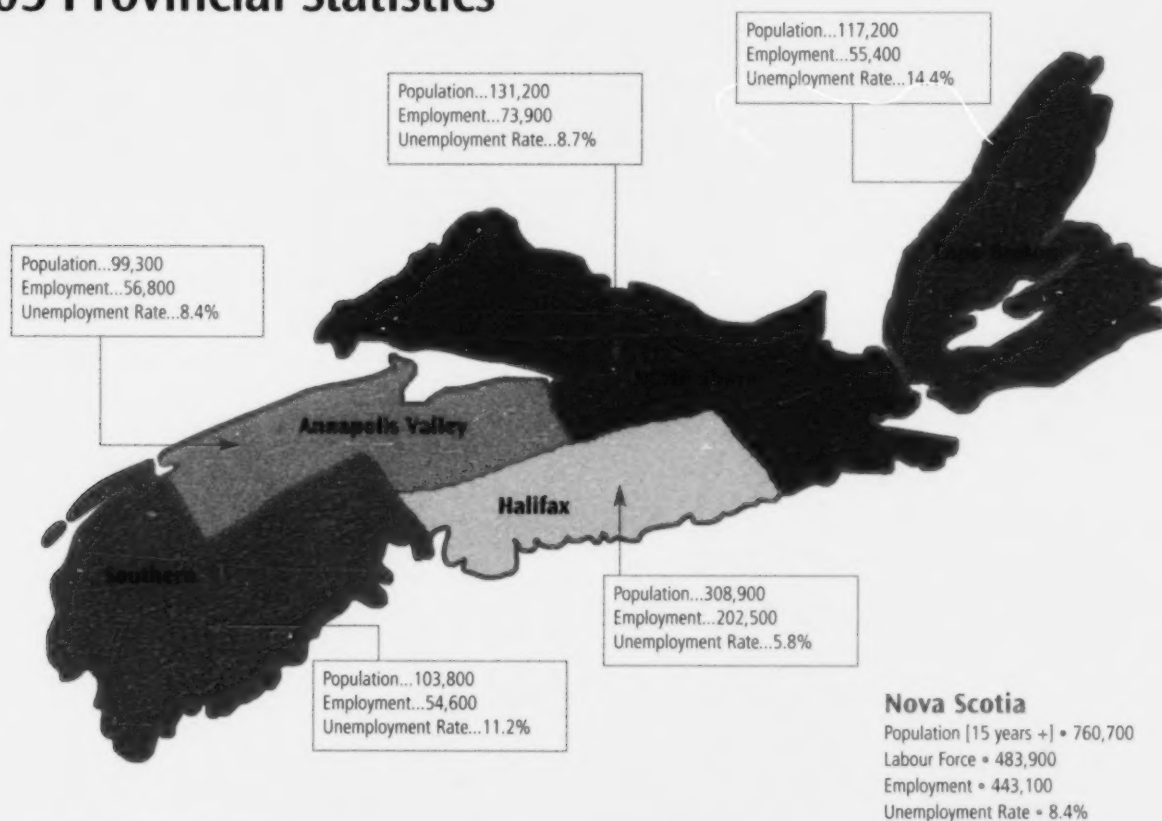
Unemployment rates are quite high in Cape Breton, low in the Halifax region, and in between these two extremes in other parts of the province.

As you research careers on the **Career Options** website, check the "Where Employed" section under "Labour Market

Information." You will find that some jobs match the population distribution across the province and others are concentrated in Halifax or other areas.

*The more education you have, the more likely you are to have a job.*

## 2005 Provincial Statistics



Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada

# Who's Hiring?

*Today, more than three-quarters (78.9 percent) of all employment opportunities for Nova Scotians are in the service sector.*

## What is the service sector?

The service sector provides services to individuals or other businesses. Stores, restaurants, hotels, hospitals, trucking companies, schools, banks, computer firms, insurance companies, gyms, and government offices are all examples of employers who are in the business of providing services.

## There are also opportunities in goods-producing industries

Our goods-producing industries (manufacturing, pulp and paper, and construction) are also important. About 21 percent of Nova Scotians work for these employers.

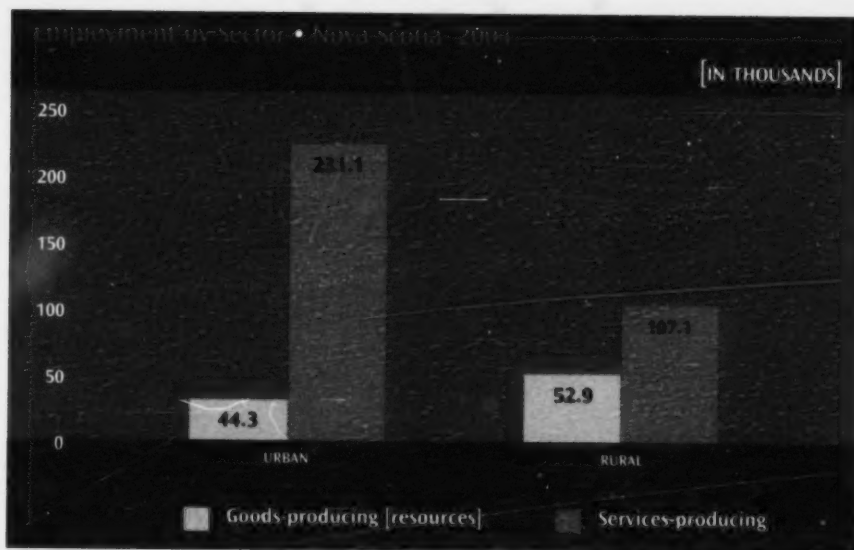
Goods-producing industries also include Nova Scotia's traditional industries of farming, fishing, logging, and mining. These are all in the resource sector. Today, less than 5 percent of Nova Scotians are able to find jobs in the resource sector.

## Are you surprised?

While most Nova Scotians are employed in services-producing industries, job opportunities across these industries are not evenly distributed across the province. Take a look at this graph.

All over the world, people and jobs are shifting to major urban areas. This trend is reflected in Nova Scotia's labour market. The Halifax region now accounts for nearly half (45 percent) of the jobs in Nova Scotia. As the service sector continues to grow, we can expect this trend to continue.

With the service sector forming such a large part of the economy, you know that customer service, teamwork, and interpersonal skills will be in high demand.



Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada

*Note: An urban area is defined as a city or town of at least 10,000 people and its surrounding areas. In Nova Scotia, these include the Halifax Regional Municipality, Cape Breton Regional Municipality, New Glasgow, Truro, and Kentville.*

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## 2005 Provincial Statistics



Source: CANSIM 2006, Statistics Canada



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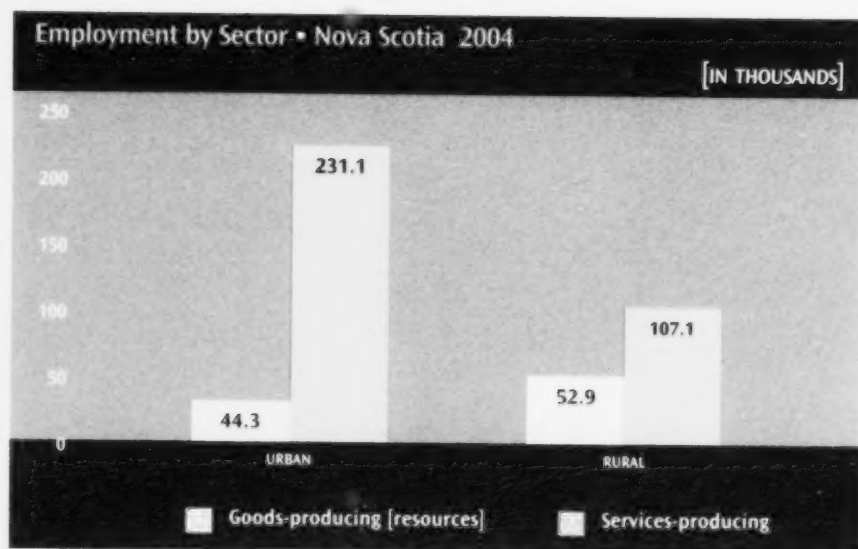
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You will likely face some real challenges if you are looking for work in a particular small community. So, should you pack up and move to the city? Not necessarily. There are opportunities in rural and small-town Nova Scotia, especially if you are willing to travel or relocate elsewhere in the province.

Many service-related jobs, for example occupations in the banking and financial sector, are concentrated in the Halifax area. Other occupations are more evenly distributed throughout the province. If you are planning a career or a career change, the Career Options website can help you identify where the opportunities are.

### What do these trends mean for you?

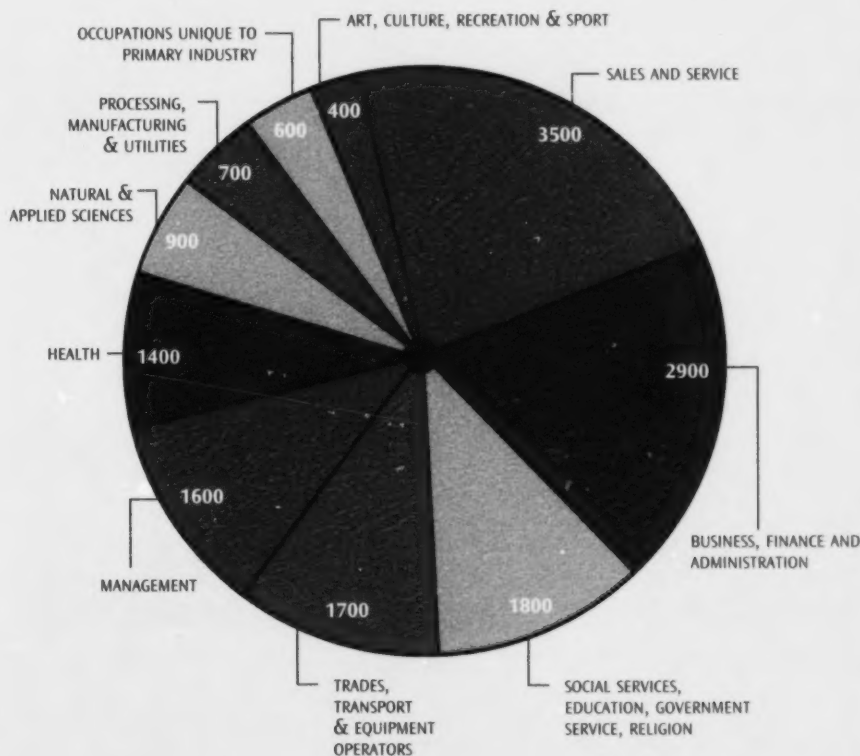
There is plenty of opportunity for any Nova Scotian who understands these basic trends and plans accordingly.

- Education is essential for success in today's workforce. Chapter 3, Building Your Skills (pages 32-41), will tell you how to get the education and training you need.
- In a service-oriented economy, good personal skills are essential. These skills can be learned through life and work experience.
- These trends reflect on-going change in Nova Scotia's labour market. Willingness and ability to adapt to change is another essential skill.

### Other Resources to help you with career planning

- Career Options website  
**[novascotiacaareeroptions.ca](http://novascotiacaareeroptions.ca)**
- Nova Scotia Career Guide for Students: distributed to grade 9 students each fall and available in pdf on the Career Options website
- Nova Scotia Career Guide for Adults: available in pdf on the Career Options website
- CORI: an interactive explanation of career planning and the Nova Scotia labour market on the Career Options website
- Career planning website guides: see "Related Resources" links on the Career Options website.

### What kind of work are people getting hired to do?



Source: Service Canada/Nova Scotia Department of Education 2005

# Notes



Business, Finance,  
and Administration  
Occupations



# Accountants and Financial Auditors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**4000**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**155**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$29.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Accountants plan, organize, and administer accounting systems for individuals and establishments. For example, they look closely at accounting records and prepare financial statements, reports, and income tax returns from accounting records. They use this information for providing advisory services to employers and clients.

Other accountants include cost accountants, who specialize in helping businesses improve their profit margin, and environmental accountants, who establish the costs of compliance with environmental regulations and the financial impact of ecological accidents.

Auditors are responsible for examining financial records of individuals and companies to ensure accuracy and agreement with accounting procedures. They also prepare detailed reports on audit results and make recommendations to improve management practices. Corporate controllers in accounting are responsible for internal auditing in a business, while forensic accountants discover illegal financial actions in business and industry, e.g. electronic security violations.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should have excellent organizational, analytical, and communication skills, both oral and written. Good judgement, integrity, and persistence are important. You must have an aptitude for mathematics and be capable of detailed and precise work. Business skills are essential. Knowledge of business and financial software is required.

## Employment Requirements

- These positions all require a formal accounting designation such as Certified General Accountant (CGA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), or Chartered Accountant (CA).
- To become a CA, you must have a bachelor's degree, complete a training program approved by the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and be accredited by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. The CA designation is transferable anywhere within Canada, and an agreement exists to allow mobility into the United States.
- To become a CGA, you must complete a training program approved by the Certified General Accountants' Association and a bachelor's degree, and meet the practical experience requirements.

- Admission into the CMA program requires a bachelor's degree in commerce or business administration. Once students are accepted into the CMA program, they must fulfill the pre-professional requirements, pass the national entrance examination, complete the two-year accreditation component, and obtain the necessary work experience in order to obtain the CMA designation. Auditors are generally required to have the same type of education and training experience as CGAs, CMAs, or CAs. They may be required to obtain accreditation by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Specialized accreditation programs, such as the program in Investigative and Forensic Accounting developed by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, may be available to accountants with the required training and experience.

## Employment Outlook

Job opportunities for accountants and financial auditors are good. This is a large occupational group and a large number of jobs will become available in the next few years due to retirement or other turnover in the work force. Also, it is expected that a number of new jobs will be created as demand for this occupation grows. Some of this demand is fueled by changes in accounting controls and the increasing complexity of corporate transactions.

Most industries now use computerized financial systems to monitor business finance. The adoption of these technologies requires that accountants and financial auditors update their IT skills. Opportunities are especially good for professionals with a strong financial analysis background, taxation expertise, and international experience. Most positions in Nova Scotia are concentrated in urban centres. However, there is demand for accountants and financial auditors in rural areas, where employers often find it difficult to keep qualified people. Demand is highest for accredited accountants.

## Typical Jobs

Cost Accountant  
Environmental Accountant  
Forensic Accountant  
Accountant

## Related Occupations

Bookkeepers



# Administrative Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**4780**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**201**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Administrative officers oversee and implement administrative procedures, establish work priorities, and coordinate services such as office space, supplies, and security services.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent organizational and verbal communication skills. You will need to analyze detailed information and prepare budgets. You must have initiative, be willing to accept new ideas, and be comfortable making decisions. You will need to keep up to date with changes in office software and computing systems.

### Employment Requirements

- These jobs require high school completion. Experience in a senior clerical or secretarial position is usually required. A university degree in business administration or a diploma in business or office administration would be an asset. Progression to administrative service management positions is possible with experience.

### Employment Outlook

Administrative officers work across the public and private sectors for a wide variety of industries. This is a very large occupational group and most job openings are expected to stem from replacement needs as older workers retire. Casual, contract, or term work is common in this occupation.

Technological change has impacted administration in the last decade and increased the skill requirements for administrative officers. Specialized skills in data and communication will aid employment prospects. This occupation is not generally affected by changes in the

business cycle, but is affected by organizational change.

### Typical Jobs

Access to Information  
and Privacy Officer  
University Admissions Officer  
Requirements Officer – Military  
Office Manager

### Related Occupations

Executive Assistants  
Property Administrators  
Conference and Event Planners  
Administrative Support Clerks

# Administrative Support Clerks

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**6640**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**259**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Administrative support clerks collect, process, and keep track of information.

Administrative clerks process forms and documents. Depending on the job, these documents could be applications, licences, permits, or registrations. Personnel clerks handle information related to hiring, training, labour relations, performance, and job classification. Court clerks call court to order, prepare records of court proceedings, and maintain exhibits.

### Skills

Good communication and interpersonal skills are important, along with a willingness to learn and adapt to continually changing procedures and software. Accuracy is important. You should also be cooperative and able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- Administrative clerks require completion of high school and usually a diploma in business administration.
- High school completion is required and completion of college or other courses in personnel administration is usually required for personnel clerks. Some clerical experience may be required.
- Court clerks require high school completion and receive on-the-job training.

### Other Considerations

The widespread application of computer technology to the duties performed by many clerks means that a solid foundation in computer skills is often necessary for entry into these occupations. As well, workers should be able to adapt to changes in technology.

### Employment Outlook

Administrative support clerks are employed throughout the public and private sectors. This is a large occupational group in Nova Scotia, and on-the-job training is common.

Routine administrative functions are increasingly computerized across the public and private sectors, and client self-service and self-registration systems are increasingly common. Despite this, there remains a focus in many organizations on front-line service delivery and customer interaction; administrative support clerks often support or deliver these services. Good communication skills along with computer proficiency in specialized applications are important for employment in this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Customs Clerk  
Ward Clerk – Hospital  
Office Administration Clerk  
Human Resources Assistant  
Personnel Clerk  
Court Clerk

### Related Occupations

Human Resource Officers  
and Specialists  
College and Other  
Vocational Instructors  
Administrative Officers  
Executive Assistants  
Immigration, Employment Insurance,  
and Revenue Officers  
Clerical Workers, General Office Skills  
Clerical Workers in Finance  
and Insurance



# Advertising, Management, and Promotion Consultants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
1130

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
55

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$21.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Advertising and promotion consultants assess characteristics of products or services to be promoted; advise clients on advertising or sales promotion strategies; and develop and implement advertising campaigns.

Management consultants, on the other hand, analyze and provide advice on managerial methods and structure of a department or organization. For example, they conduct research to determine the effectiveness of programs, then propose improvements or re-organization of the operations based on the information collected.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need good interpersonal skills and effective oral and written communication skills. You should be organized and capable of analytical and logical thought. Negotiating skills and research skills are also important.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in business administration or commerce, with courses in management, marketing, or advertising, is usually required to work in this field.
- A Master of Business Administration (MBA) may also be required for senior positions. Some establishments may require management consultants to be certified by the Canadian Association of Management Consultants.

### Other Considerations

Many companies are now contracting with outside firms to provide various professional services. Therefore the number of people in these occupations who work on a contract basis is likely to increase in the future.

### Employment Outlook

Professionals in this group are employed by management consulting firms and advertising agencies and throughout the public and private sectors, or are self-employed as consultants.

Job opportunities in these occupations are rated as good, largely because more and more organizations are employing the skills of these professionals. Employment is largely concentrated in large urban areas. The average age of this occupational group is approximately 42 years, which is slightly higher than the average for all occupations. Because of this, retirements can be expected to contribute to some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Advertising Account Executive  
Management Consultant  
Promotions Specialist

### Related Occupations

Accountants and Financial Auditors  
Industrial and Manufacturing  
Engineers

# Assessors and Appraisers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**280**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Assessors and appraisers assess the value of property for purposes of sale, purchase, taxation, or disposal of assets. Business valuers collect and analyze the financial records of a business to assess its competitiveness or to estimate its market value. They take into consideration factors such as business operations, intellectual property, enterprise value, and non-financial issues.

Property valuers determine the value of land, buildings, structures, machinery, equipment, and property improvements for purposes of taxation, sales, grants, and regional planning. For example, they may specialize in a specific field of assessment such as residential, resource, or commercial/industrial. Field assessors collect assessment data through field inspections.

Other appraisers in this category include real estate appraisers, who determine the value of real estate, often specializing in a specific type of appraisal such as residential, agricultural, and/or commercial property appraisals.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need to be organized and analytical, and must be able to meet deadlines. You must have knowledge of the value of similar businesses or property in the area. Good communication skills are important. A good understanding of business and finance is necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Business valuers usually require a bachelor's degree or diploma in accounting, business or commerce and accreditation with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Evaluators. The Chartered Business Valuator (CBV) designation requires several years of valuation experience, completion of a comprehensive education program, and successful completion of the membership entrance exam.
- Real estate appraisers and residential assessors require the Appraisal Institute of Canada (AIC) designation Canadian Residential Appraiser (CRA) or an acceptable equivalent. Holders of the CRA designation are authorized to appraise single family dwellings, apartment buildings with four or fewer units, and individual undeveloped residential dwelling sites.
- Field assessors usually require Grade 12 and four years' experience in the construction or real estate industry.
- Property valuers and commercial assessors are required to obtain the AIC designation Accredited Appraiser Canadian Institute (AACI). Holders of the AACI designation may appraise all types of property, including residential, vacant land, and commercial complexes.
- Provincial government property assessors require the AACI designation plus five years' experience, or the CRA designation plus eight years' experience.

### Employment Outlook

The finance and real estate industry in Nova Scotia tends to centralize many of its services in Halifax. Employment of assessors and appraisers is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period. The average age of this occupation is approximately 46, which is significantly older than the average for all occupations. Retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

Productivity gains due to the use of computerized records and electronic communications has weakened demand for these professionals. Furthermore, the increasing amount of real estate data available to institutions has also negatively affected demand for these occupations. In some cases, the duties of assessors and appraisers have been adopted by insurance companies and real estate agents.

### Typical Jobs

Business Valuator  
Commercial Assessor  
Property Valuator  
Real Estate Appraiser  
Residential Assessor

### Related Occupations

Accountants and Financial Auditors

# Bookkeepers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**3520**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**138**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Bookkeepers keep financial records for both individuals and businesses, often requiring familiarity with basic accounting software. For example, they keep financial records, maintain various accounts, and calculate and prepare cheques for payrolls and other bills. Some bookkeepers may also complete tax forms and other government documents, prepare statistical and financial reports, and perform other personal bookkeeping services.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need good mathematical skills and your work must be accurate. Good interpersonal and communication skills are important. Knowledge of computers and new software on the market is needed. You should be cooperative and able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- Successful completion of high school plus an academic program in accounting, bookkeeping, or a related field or completion of two years of a recognized professional accounting program is required to work in this field. Accounting or bookkeeping courses combined with several years of experience as a financial or accounting clerk would normally substitute for the above-noted requirements.

### Other Considerations

Bookkeepers should be prepared to keep abreast of changing practices and technology.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is found across many industries and is therefore not particularly vulnerable to economic downturns. This is a large occupational group in Nova Scotia. The average age of bookkeepers is 44 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

Organizational and technological change impacts this occupation. Increased office automation has improved the efficiency of bookkeepers, and it is now common for one bookkeeper to provide services to multiple organizations. Many people in this occupation are considered self-employed.

Up-to-date knowledge of specific computer applications is important in this field of work. In-depth knowledge of a specific industry may allow advancement to more senior positions.

### Typical Jobs

Bookkeepers

### Related Occupations

Accountants and Financial Auditors

# Clerical Workers in Finance and Insurance

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**9330**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**333**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These clerical workers perform and document routine financial transactions. Activities may include bookkeeping and accounting; classifying, storing, and recording information; transferring data into accounts and records; paying and receiving money; answering telephones; and greeting clients and customers. Bank tellers process financial transactions and provide information on related banking products and services. Customer service representatives answer enquiries and provide information regarding an establishment's goods, services, and policies. They also provide customer services such as receiving payments and processing requests for services. Payroll clerks process and verify payroll information. Collectors collect payments on overdue accounts and bad cheques.

### Skills

Good communication and interpersonal skills are important, along with a willingness to learn and adapt to continually changing equipment and software. Basic mathematical skills are required, and you should be comfortable handling basic financial transactions. Your work must be accurate and you should enjoy repetitive tasks. Familiarity with computer software and other office equipment is needed. You should also be cooperative and able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and at least some college or university education in business, accounting, payroll, or a related area is generally required to work in these occupations.
- Some accounting clerks must be bondable. This may require a criminal record check and/or a credit check.
- Collections officers and debt collectors employed by a collection agency require a Collector Licence issued by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.
- Banks, insurance companies, and other financial institutions usually provide short-term training programs specific to their companies.
- On-the-job training is provided for customer service representatives and collection officers.

### Other Considerations

The widespread application of computer technology to the duties performed by many clerks means that a solid foundation in computer skills is often necessary for entry into these occupations. As well, workers should be able to adapt to changes in technology.

### Employment Outlook

Employment growth for this occupational group is expected to be limited through to the year 2010. For financial services tellers, the increased use of automated banking machines and online and telephone banking has decreased the number of vacancies in this occupation. Many tellers are employed part-time during peak business hours. Across Nova Scotia, the number of banking branches has declined over the past few years, reducing employment opportunities for this occupation. Similarly, banking and insurance and other financial clerks have been affected by this trend.

Demand for accounting clerks is often for part-time or casual work. Most full-time job openings result from attrition. The increased automation of financial information and the use of specialized software require that accounting clerks have a good understanding of computer technologies.

Demand for payroll clerks has lessened in the past few years as increased productivity through the use of computer software has eliminated many routine tasks.

### Typical Jobs

Payroll Officer  
Bank Teller  
Accounting Clerk  
Insurance Clerk  
Real Estate Clerk  
Collections Officer

### Related Occupations

Bookkeepers  
Clerical Workers, General Office Skills  
Clerical Workers in Finance and Insurance  
Administrative Support Clerks

# Clerical Workers, General Office Skills

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**7310**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**175**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Clerical workers are involved in performing clerical and typing duties. Activities may include classifying, storing, and recording information; operating office equipment; scheduling appointments and meetings; answering telephones; and greeting clients and customers. Hospital admitting clerks interview patients to obtain and process information. File clerks file papers, records, documents, and other material.

### Skills

Good communication and interpersonal skills are important, along with a willingness to learn and adapt to continually changing equipment and software. Your work must be accurate, and you should enjoy repetitive tasks. Familiarity with computer software and other office equipment is needed. You should also be cooperative and able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and training in office administration or a related area are generally required to work in a clerical occupation. Some occupations may also require on-the-job training.
- Training or experience to achieve standard speed and accuracy in keyboarding or data entry may be required.

### Other Considerations

The widespread application of computer technology to the duties performed by many clerks means that a solid foundation in computer skills is often necessary for entry into these occupations. As well, workers should be able to adapt to changes in technology.

### Employment Outlook

Little employment growth is expected for this occupational group in the coming years. Opportunities are best for workers who can perform a wide range of clerical duties and have computer skills. Retirements and attrition will contribute to some job openings.

Job openings are often casual or part-time, and hiring through employment agencies is common. Call centres are a source of employment for this occupational group.

Clerical workers are employed throughout many industries and this occupational group is not generally sensitive to overall economic conditions.

### Typical Jobs

Admitting Clerk  
File Clerk  
Administrative Assistant  
Office Assistant  
Health Records Technician  
Receptionist  
Switchboard Operator

### Related Occupations

Advertising, Management,  
and Promotion Consultants  
Library and Archive Technicians  
and Assistants



# Clerical Workers, Office Equipment Operators

<b>Labour Market Information</b>	<b>Outlook LIMITED</b>	Estimated employment in 2005 <b>1460</b>	Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010 <b>DECLINING</b>	Estimated average annual number of job openings <b>30</b>	Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004 <b>BELOW AVERAGE</b>	Estimated Average Earnings in 2005 <b>\$10.75 HOURLY</b>
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## Nature of the Work

These clerical workers work with specialized equipment and systems such as computerized telephone systems, invoicing and inventory management software, and desktop publishing software. They are involved in transferring data into accounts and records; paying and receiving money; and preparing cheques for payroll. Data entry clerks input information from invoices, forms, or records, and verify accuracy of data. Desktop publishing operators operate desktop publishing software and equipment to design, lay out, and produce camera-ready copy. Telephone operators operate telephone systems to advance and assist the completion of telephone calls.

## Skills

Office equipment operators require manual dexterity and the ability to sit still for long periods of time, and they should not mind repetitive tasks. Good communication and interpersonal skills are also important, along with a willingness to learn and adapt to continually changing equipment and software.

## Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is generally required to work in a clerical occupation. Some occupations may also require on-the-job training. Training or experience to achieve standard speed and accuracy in keyboarding or data entry may be required.

- Desktop publishing usually requires either completion of a college program in graphic arts, or training in desktop publishing.

## Other Considerations

The widespread application of computer technology to the duties performed by many clerks means that a solid foundation in computer skills is often necessary for entry into these occupations. As well, workers should be able to adapt to changes in technology.

## Employment Outlook

Employment opportunities differ for the various occupations included in this group. Employment growth is projected to be the greatest for desktop publishing operators. However, this is a small occupational group and although retirements are expected to contribute to job

openings, the number of openings will be limited.

There is limited employment growth anticipated for data entry clerks, and casual or term employment is common. Most full-time job openings become available due to attrition. Call centres are common employers of this occupation.

## Typical Jobs

Computer Typesetter  
Desktop Publishing Operator  
Data Entry Clerk  
Telephone Operator

## Related Occupations

Clerical Workers,  
General Office Skills  
Graphic Arts Technicians  
Graphic Designers

# Conference and Event Planners

<b>Labour Market Information</b>	<b>Outlook FAIR</b>	Estimated employment in 2005 <b>240</b>	Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010 <b>GROWING</b>	Estimated average annual number of job openings <b>11</b>	Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004 <b>AVERAGE</b>	Estimated Average Earnings in 2005 <b>\$13.50 HOURLY</b>
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## Nature of the Work

Conference and meeting planners and festival organizers are responsible for organizing conventions, seminars, trade shows, and other events. They meet with sponsors and organizing committees to plan events and establish budgets; coordinate services; organize registration; and plan entertainment and social gatherings.

## Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and

take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions.

## Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree or diploma in business or tourism and hospitality administration would be a definite asset to gain employment as a conference or event planner or festival organizer.
- Several years of experience in hospitality or tourism administration or in public relations are usually required, and may substitute for formal education requirements.

## Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is expected to remain stable over the forecast period. This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia. In the Halifax area there is very little turnover in this occupation. In many parts of Nova Scotia, demand for this occupation is linked to event planning in the tourism industry and is therefore seasonal. This is a relatively young workforce and the average age of these professionals is approximately 38 years.

Conference and event planners gain experience in a wide range of activities and are therefore qualified for a range of

administrative and managerial tasks. With experience, advancement to related positions in marketing or hospitality management is possible.

## Typical Jobs

Festival Organizer  
Conference and Meeting Planner  
Event Planner  
Trade Show Planner

## Related Occupations

Public Relations and  
Communications Officer  
Sales Representatives,  
Wholesale Trade  
Administrative Officers  
Executive Assistants



# Court Officers and Justices of the Peace

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**160**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Court officers such as clerk of the court, court registrar, and trial coordinator record trial proceedings and judgements; coordinate administrative services and establish work priorities for court staff; schedule court trials and arrange pre-trial conferences; and oversee the maintenance of judicial court records.

Justices of the peace issue subpoenas, summonses, and warrants; administer oaths; conduct bail hearings; and perform civil marriages.

### Skills

For these occupations, good observational and analytical skills are necessary. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail.

Honesty and integrity are important. You also need good communication skills and an ability to work well with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Court officers are usually required to obtain a university degree in law, business, or public administration, or a college diploma in business administration, public administration, or legal studies.
- Justices of the peace are appointed by the provincial Attorney General/Minister of the Department of Justice. A justice of the peace is usually a lawyer with at least five years of experience.
- Completion of a justice registrar, justice of the peace, or other court training program is required for court officers.

- Several years of experience as a court clerk or in another court service are usually required.

### Other Considerations

Typical of most government jobs, there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment in these occupations and people tend to work for the full year.

### Employment Outlook

Court officers and justices of the peace are employed by the federal and provincial governments. This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia and competition for these positions is strong. Many workers in this occupational group enter the field through advancement from junior positions. A background in a justice-related environment would be an asset.

Employment growth is projected for this occupational group in the coming years and retirements in this field will create some job openings. However, this occupational group is small and the number of job openings will reflect this.

### Typical Jobs

Clerk of the Court  
Court Registrar  
Justice of the Peace  
Trial Coordinator

### Related Occupations

Paralegals  
Administrative Officers  
Administrative Support Clerks  
Sheriffs and Bailiffs

# Court Recorders and Medical Transcriptionists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**240**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**16**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Court recorders and Hansard reporters record and transcribe proceedings of courts or legislative assemblies and committees, and prepare dictated reports that require knowledge of legal terminology. Medical transcriptionists type medical records and other reports requiring knowledge of medical terminology.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need accurate and fast transcription and typing speeds, as well as excellent proofreading skills.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required.
- Court recorders must complete the Court Transcriber Certification Program, administered by the Department of Justice, and be registered as a Certified Court Transcriber.
- A Certified Medical Transcriptionist (CMT) or Chartered Shorthand Reporter (CSR) certificate may be required.

### Other Considerations

Working in these occupations may cause back and neck strain due to sitting for long periods of time, as well as eye strain from computer screens.

### Employment Outlook

Employment growth in this occupational group is expected to be higher than average through to the year 2010. These occupations are not generally affected by economic conditions.

Court recorders are employed by provincial and federal governments, and positions are often filled through internal hiring processes before going public. Medical transcriptionists often work on a contract basis out of a home office and are paid per line of copy with a current rate of 7 to 12 cents per line.

Most court recorders and medical transcriptionists are female. The average age of this occupation is approximately 42 years,

which is somewhat higher than the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Court Recorder  
Court Reporter  
Medical Transcriptionist  
Hansard Reporter

### Related Occupations

Legal Secretaries  
Medical Secretaries

# Customs, Ship, and Other Brokers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Brokers negotiate commercial dealings on behalf of their clients. For example, customs brokers make sure that goods being sent to another country or shipped into Canada will move easily from one country to another.

To ensure that goods are not held up at a border, customs brokers arrange for the release of goods and payment of duties and taxes. They may also advise their clients on export and import restrictions, permit requirements, tariff classification, and other customs-related matters.

Other brokers in this category include ship brokers and gas brokers. Ship brokers may buy and sell ships and arrange for registration on behalf of ship owners, or negotiate the buying and selling of cargo space. Gas brokers negotiate the buying and selling of gas on a wholesale basis.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You must have good negotiation skills and be attentive to detail. You must be efficient and aware of customer needs.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is required, and some university or college courses in commerce or a related field may be required.
- Customs brokers require several years of on-the-job training and may be required to successfully complete the Customs Broker Professional Examination. In order for a brokerage firm to be licensed, an application must be filed with the Canada Border Services Agency. Requirements for licensing differ, depending on whether you are applying as a sole proprietor, a partnership, a corporation, or a partnership comprised of

corporations. In all cases, before the application is filed, one person (for a sole proprietor), one partner (where the firm is a partnership), or one officer (in the case of a corporation) must have passed the Customs Brokers Professional Examination, which is offered once a year.

- Ship brokers require several years of on-the-job training.

### Other Considerations

The majority of workers in these occupations work full-time and for the full year. Most work between 30 and 40 hours per week.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group, with less than 100 people working in this profession in Nova Scotia, and turnover is low. There is little unemployment in this occupation among experienced workers, and specific knowledge is required. The average age of this

occupational group is 40 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

Employment opportunities are best in the Halifax area. Increased efficiencies due to automation and electronic communications may allow some companies to avoid replacing staff who retire. There is little mobility between different types of brokers.

### Typical Jobs

Gas Broker  
Customs Broker  
Ship Broker

### Related Occupations

Securities Agents, Investment Dealers, and Traders  
Insurance Agents and Brokers

# Executive Assistants

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**530**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**24**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Executive assistants coordinate administrative procedures, public relations activities, and conduct research for elected officials and corporate executives.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions. Familiarity with computers would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- An executive assistant should have a university degree in business, public administration, political science, or a related area.

### Employment Outlook

Demand is expected to remain stable for this occupation, and retirements and attrition in the coming years are expected to contribute to some job openings for this occupation.

The role of executive assistants continues to evolve as technological advances reduce the amount of time that is needed for routine tasks, and more challenging and broad responsibilities are adopted. Job advancement into the management stream is possible for this occupation.

Executive assistants may gain a broad understanding of the executive

functions of an organization, and the skills learned through this type of work are widely transferable to other occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Executive Assistant

### Related Occupations

Administrative Officers  
Conference and Event Planners  
Secretaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**440**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**15**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Financial analysts and investment analysts collect financial and investment information about companies, examine and analyze the information, and provide investment advice and recommendations to clients. Portfolio managers manage large investment portfolios for pension funds, mutual funds, corporations or individuals.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have excellent organizational, analytical, and communication skills, both oral and written. Good judgement, integrity, and persistence are important. You must have an aptitude for mathematics and be capable of detailed and precise work. Business skills are essential.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in commerce, business administration, or economics, on-the-job training, and industry courses/programs are usually required.
- A master's degree in finance or in business administration (MBA with a concentration in finance) may be required.
- The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation may be required to become a financial analyst. Investment, sales, or other related industry experience may substitute for formal post-secondary education requirements.
- Investment advisors may be required to complete various training programs and courses, such as the Canadian Securities course and the Professional Financial Planning course offered by the Canadian Securities Institute, or other courses offered through the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts, Investment Funds Institute, and the Canadian Institute of Financial Planners. You should consult some local financial institutions to determine what type of training is required to gain employment in your specific field of interest.
- Financial and investment analysts are required to be registered with the Nova Scotia Securities Commission to practise.

### Employment Outlook

Large Canadian banks generally undertake financial and investment analysis at their headquarters, which are most often located in large urban centres like Toronto and Vancouver. This limits the number of employment opportunities for this occupation in Nova Scotia.

Banks and credit institutions have expanded their range of financial services, which has created some demand for this occupational group. However, corporate restructuring, acquisitions, and mergers may negatively impact this occupation in the near term.

The monitoring of business finances is largely done through computerized financial systems. Experience using financial software is very important for this occupation. Opportunities are best for those with a master's degree in business administration or accreditation as a chartered financial analyst.

### Typical Jobs

Portfolio Manager  
Financial Analyst  
Money Market Analyst  
Research Associate, Financial Services  
Investment Analyst

### Related Occupations

Securities Agents, Investment Dealers, and Traders  
Financial Planners and Other Financial Officers  
Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts

# Financial Planners and Other Financial Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1440**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**49**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Financial planners develop personal financial plans for their clients. They address such issues as cash management, insurance, investments, and retirement planning. Financial examiners and inspectors review financial institutions to ensure compliance with regulations. Financial investigators investigate possible unethical conduct by persons or companies that trade in securities or provide related financial services. Underwriters underwrite new issues of stocks and bonds, and negotiate with corporations and governments to determine the nature and terms of the new securities. Trust officers administer estate, personal, charitable, and other types of trusts. Mortgage brokers obtain financial information from clients, and apply for and negotiate mortgage loans.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have excellent organizational, analytical, and communication skills, both oral and written. Good judgement, integrity, and persistence are important. You must have an aptitude for mathematics and be capable of detailed and precise work. Business skills are essential.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in business administration, commerce, economics, or a related field is usually required.
- Various training programs and courses are offered by financial institutes and organizations such as the Canadian Securities Institute, Institute of Canadian Bankers, Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts, Investment Funds Institute, or the Canadian Institute of Financial Planners. For example, the Canadian Securities Course is required to become registered to provide advice and sell most securities in Canada.
- The designation Personal Financial Planner, awarded by the Financial Planners Standards Council of Canada, may be required.
- Financial planners who sell regulated financial products such as annuities, RRSPs, and life insurance must be licensed by the Nova Scotia Securities Commission to practise.
- Financial examiners and inspectors may require a recognized accounting designation.
- Mortgage brokers in Nova Scotia require a mortgage broker licence.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for financial planners and other financial officers is expected to remain steady over the forecast period. It is expected that Nova Scotia's aging population will contribute to demand for financial planning services as they begin to consider retirement and estate planning.

Increasingly, large financial institutions have expanded their services to include financial planning, estate planning, and trust services. As a result, people with less formal training in investment and financial planning can now enter the occupation. This has also impacted the occupation by reducing the number of people who own their own businesses and are self-employed. As it is increasingly common for financial planners to work for a financial institution, this also means that there are advancement opportunities within these institutions to move into management positions. Compensation is usually based on commission for these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Trust Officer  
Mortgage Broker  
Financial Planner  
Financial Examiner  
Underwriter, Stock  
Investment Advisor, Personal Finances

### Related Occupations

Financial and Investment Analysts  
Securities Agents, Investment Dealers,  
and Traders  
Economists and Economic Policy  
Researchers and Analysts  
Business Development Officers,  
Marketing Researchers and  
Consultants



# Human Resource Officers and Specialists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1660**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**79**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Specialists in human resources develop and evaluate human resources and labour relations policies, programs, and procedures. Additionally, these specialists may also coordinate employee performance and appraisal programs. For example, they give advice to managers and employees on personnel matters; negotiate joint agreements; administer benefit and employment equity programs; and prepare job descriptions and salary ranges.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need good interpersonal skills as well as effective oral and written communication skills. You should be organized and capable of analytical and logical thought. Negotiating skills and research skills are also important.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree or college diploma in human resources management or personnel management is generally necessary to work in this field. You may also gain employment in this field by completing a bachelor's degree or diploma in a related field such as business administration, industrial relations, commerce, or psychology, and completing a professional development program in personnel administration.
- A master's degree in business administration or public administration with a concentration in human resources or organizational behaviour is advised for management positions.

### Other Considerations

Increasing emphasis on the importance of achieving employment equity, meeting stricter standards in health and safety, and administering employee benefit packages will help create job opportunities for people in this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

The roles of human resource officers and specialists can be broad and may include such responsibilities as the delivery of training programs, occupational health and safety issues, professional development, managing diversity initiatives, and employee recruitment and retention. As roles have expanded, there has been a trend towards professionalization in this occupation, requiring higher levels of education.

Expertise in computer technology is important in this occupation, as many organizations have adopted computerized human resources systems to manage employee information. The average age of these professionals in Nova Scotia is 44 years, which is somewhat above the average for all occupations. Retirements should contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Compensation Research Analyst  
Employee Relations Officer  
Employment Equity Officer  
Job Analyst  
Labour Relations Officer

### Related Occupations

Advertising, Management, and Promotion Consultants  
College and Other Vocational Instructors  
Personnel and Recruitment Officers

# Immigration, Employment Insurance, and Revenue Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**600**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Customs inspectors determine the admissibility of goods and assess duty at border points, and inform manufacturers and shippers of customs, laws, and procedures. Immigration officers determine admissibility of persons seeking entry into Canada; grant landed-immigrant status; and assist in the removal of deported people.

Revenue officers examine accounting records, systems, and organizational controls to determine taxes payable, ensure compliance with reporting regulations, and find evidence of fraud; advise on reporting and measurement procedures for goods subject to taxation; and prepare charges for court cases.

Employment insurance officers determine the eligibility of persons applying for benefits, monitor payments throughout the duration of the claim, and investigate where there appears to be fraud or abuse.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent organizational and verbal communication skills. You will need to analyze detailed information and prepare budgets. You must have initiative, be willing to accept new ideas, and be comfortable making decisions. You will need to keep up to date with changes in office software and computing systems.

### Employment Requirements

- To work as a customs, immigration, employment insurance, or revenue officer, you would generally require a bachelor's degree or college diploma plus several years' administrative or regulatory experience.
- Completion of specialized government training programs is normally required.

### Other Considerations

Typical of most government jobs, there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment in these occupations and people tend to work for the full year.

### Employment Outlook

This occupational group is employed by federal and provincial governments, and employment is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations over the forecast period.

The work of employment insurance officers is sensitive to changes in legislation, technology, and general economic conditions. For example, a downturn in employment will increase case loads for employment insurance officers.

For immigration officers, the creation of the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration and the government's commitment to increase immigration to the province may result in increased job opportunities in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Revenue Officer  
Immigration Officer  
Employment Insurance Officer  
Customs Inspector

### Related Occupations

Accountants and Financial Auditors  
Financial Planners and Other  
Financial Officers  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants,  
and Program Officers



# Information, Correspondence, and Library Clerks

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**9460**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**393**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Workers in these occupations provide or collect information and work with the public.

Customer service clerks work for establishments such as call centres, utilities, and retail stores. They answer questions and provide information, and handle payments and requests for service. Survey interviewers contact individuals, either in person or over the phone, to collect information for market research, public opinion polls, or election and census enumeration. Statistical clerks check and code information, enter data, and analyze data to produce reports or lists.

Library clerks check out books and other material, sort and shelve books, provide general library information, and perform basic clerical duties. Correspondence clerks reply to requests for information and assistance, enquiries, and complaints. Editorial assistants and publication clerks assist in the preparation of published material, proofread, and check facts.

### Skills

Good communication and interpersonal skills are important, along with a willingness to learn and adapt to continually changing equipment and software. Statistical clerks require basic mathematical skills and should be comfortable handling basic numerical analysis. You should also be cooperative and able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- Library clerks require high school completion. A diploma or degree related to library science is required to progress to more senior positions.
- Advertising, correspondence, and publication clerks require high school completion and may require courses or a diploma in writing, journalism, or a related field. Previous clerical or administrative experience may be required.
- Customer service providers usually require high school completion, and may require completion of a relevant post-secondary program. Clerical or sales experience is an asset.
- Survey interviewers usually require high school completion and experience in operating a computer. On-the-job training is usually provided. Some positions may require a driver's licence.

### Other Considerations

The widespread application of computer technology to the duties performed by many clerks means that a solid foundation in computer skills is often necessary for entry into these occupations. As well, workers should be able to adapt to changes in technology.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects differ for the various occupations included in this occupational group. A high rate of employment growth is expected for customer service information clerks, who are largely employed by call centres. This is the largest occupation included in this group. Demand for this occupation has increased due to growth in the number of customer self-help applications being used to process basic transactions. This has increased the number and complexity of customer inquiries directed to customer service centres.

Opportunities for survey interviewers and statistical clerks have been buoyed by the expansion of telemarketing and outbound call centres.

Overall, this is a relatively young workforce and attrition can be expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Library Clerk  
Advertising Clerk  
Editorial Assistant  
Tourist Information Clerk  
Customer Service Representative – Call Centre

### Related Occupations

Public Relations and Communications Officers  
Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks  
Clerical Workers – General Office Skills  
Clerical Workers in Finance and Insurance  
Librarians  
Library and Archive Technicians and Assistants  
Airline Sales and Service Agents  
Ticket and Cargo Agents

# Insurance Adjusters and Claims Examiners

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**730**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**24**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Insurance adjusters investigate claims on behalf of insurance companies and government insurers. They determine whether the claims are valid and the amount of loss or damages covered by insurance policies. They must take statements and consult with persons making insurance claims, accident witnesses, and doctors; then they negotiate settlements and prepare the adjustment reports for head office.

Insurance claims examiners assess the claims investigated by insurance adjusters and approve payment.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be organized, analytical, and decisive. You need good communication skills, both written and oral. You need good interpersonal skills, especially when dealing with clients who are upset or experiencing stress. You must be able to work as part of a team. Knowledge of medical terminology and computer skills are helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and a bachelor's degree, diploma, some post-secondary education, or several years' experience in the industry are required. Work experience as a clerk in a claims department may be required.
- Claims examiners may be required to complete courses offered by the Insurance Claims Association or the Health Insurance Association of America.
- Completion of educational programs through the Insurance Institute of Canada entitles insurance adjusters and claims examiners to professional recognition as Associates of the Insurance Institute of Canada. Several years of on-the-job training and completion of insurance industry courses, such as courses offered by the Life Office Management Association, may also be required by your employer.
- Independent insurance adjusters are required to have a provincial license issued by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations. To qualify for this license, you must be employed by a licensed independent adjuster and complete eight specified courses through the Insurance Institute of Canada. Once these requirements have been met, you may apply for an independent adjuster's license from the Financial Institutions Unit, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

### Employment Outlook

The vast majority of employment opportunities for this occupation are in the Halifax area. This is a medium-sized occupational group. Although a number of retirements are anticipated in the coming years, this will not contribute significantly to employment growth.

The average age of insurance adjusters and claims examiners is 41 years. Work in this field is moderately sensitive to overall economic conditions and is typically not seasonal. A good knowledge of computerized accounting and insurance processing systems will aid employment prospects for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Claim Examiner: Life, Property, or Casualty  
Insurance Adjustor

### Related Occupations

Insurance Underwriters

# Insurance Underwriters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**430**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Insurance underwriters evaluate new and renewal applications for individual/group life, disability, health, and general insurance. They approve the sale of policies, set rates, and make recommendations on appropriate insurance plans and coverage. They must prepare reports and update forms when necessary.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be organized, analytical, and decisive. You need good communication skills, both written and oral. You need good interpersonal skills and must be able to work as a part of a team. Knowledge of medical terminology and computer skills are helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and either several years' experience in the industry or a bachelor's degree, diploma, or some post-secondary education are required.
- Insurance underwriters are required to complete insurance industry underwriting courses and training programs, such as courses offered by the Life Underwriters Association of Canada (LUAC). The Chartered Life Underwriter designation is granted by LUAC.

### Employment Outlook

Although there are some retirements projected for this occupation in the coming years, this will not contribute significantly to employment growth. The adoption of computer software for analyzing and rating insurance applications has negatively affected this occupation, and due to streamlined processes fewer workers are now needed. Countering this trend, de-regulation of the financial and insurance sector has increased the number of companies offering these services. Many insurance underwriters move into an area of specialization after a period of on-the-job training.

### Typical Jobs

Life Underwriter  
Property Underwriter

### Related Occupations

Insurance Agents and Brokers

# Legal Secretaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**760**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**34**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Secretaries perform a variety of administrative duties in support of their employers. Activities may include scheduling appointments and maintaining a calendar; answering telephones; receiving and answering correspondence; ordering office supplies; maintaining files and record management systems; and preparing and managing budgets, expense accounts, and financial records. Legal secretaries require knowledge of legal records and procedures. They control confidential documents and materials, and review and proofread outgoing documents to ensure compliance with legal procedure. They may attend court, meetings, or conferences to take notes or minutes.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need excellent grammar and communication skills. Accurate and fast typing speed is essential. You should have a working knowledge of computers, word processing software, and general office equipment. Interpersonal skills and the ability to work with others are important.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required, and completion of a one- or two-year college program for secretaries or legal secretaries is usually required.

### Employment Outlook

Employment for this occupation is expected to remain stable in the coming years, with most job openings occurring as older workers retire. This is a fairly large occupation in Nova Scotia. Employment is typically neither seasonal nor sensitive to overall economic conditions. Self-employment is rare. A good grasp of various technologies such as the Internet, legal databases, and billing systems is very important for employment in this field.

### Typical Jobs

Litigation Secretary  
Legal Secretary

### Related Occupations

Paralegals  
Administrative Support Clerks  
Court Recorders and Medical Transcriptionists

# Loan Officers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1200**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**54**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Loan officers such as credit and mortgage officers examine, evaluate, and process credit and loan applications. They interview applicants for various types of loans; research credit and evaluate applicants' financial status; complete documentation; and approve or reject applications within authorized limits. They also promote the sale of credit and loan services, review and update files, and prepare statements on delinquent accounts.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have excellent organizational, analytical, and communication skills, both oral and written. Good judgement, integrity, and persistence are

important. You must have an aptitude for mathematics and be capable of detailed and precise work. Business skills are essential.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school with successful completion of Mathematics 12 plus extensive experience in general banking, or a bachelor's degree or diploma in commerce, economics, or a related area is required to work in this field.
- Once employed in the field, completion of loan or credit training programs, such as the Fellow Credit Institute (FCI) program or other courses offered through your place of employment, is normally required.

### Employment Outlook

Trends related to the modernization of the financial sector have impacted this occupation. The centralization of many financial services to urban areas has reduced employment in many rural areas of Nova Scotia to front-end service delivery only. Meanwhile, the expansion of financial services into different industry sectors, e.g. grocery chains, has created employment opportunities.

The level of technology in the financial services sector has increased and telephone and Internet banking are becoming increasingly common. This has resulted in fewer staffing needs and increased technological requirements for this occupational group.

As technology has streamlined many routine loan acceptance procedures, loan officers are spending more time on risk assessment and verification of larger, more complex loans. Overall, employment prospects for this occupation are expected to be fair over the forecast period.

### Typical Jobs

Mortgage Officer  
Credit Officer

### Related Occupations

Managers in Banking, Communications, and Other Business Services

# Mail and Message Distributing Occupations

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2970**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**90**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Individuals in these occupations process, sort, and deliver mail, parcels, newspapers, and other items. Couriers and messengers pick up and deliver letters, parcels, and other items within and between establishments. Letter carriers sort and deliver mail, record delivery of registered mail, and collect money for cash-on-delivery parcels. Mail sorters process and sort mail and parcels in post offices, mail processing plants, and internal mailrooms. Postal clerks serve customers and record transactions at sales counters and postal wickets.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be organized, responsible, and reliable. Your work must be accurate. Good health and physical stamina may be needed.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education may be required to work in this field. Letter carriers may be required to complete two to four weeks of training provided by Canada Post Corporation.
- A valid driver's license and good driver's abstract are required for some couriers and messengers.

### Other Considerations

The increased usage of electronic mail and other electronic means of exchanging information will limit new job growth in these occupations and affect the nature of the duties performed.

### Employment Outlook

This occupational group is employed by the Canada Post Corporation and by courier and express service companies throughout the private and public sectors. Employment growth is expected to be stable through the forecast period to 2010.

Advances in automated messaging and document transfer have decreased demand for this

occupation. Canada Post occasionally hires part-time and casual employees.

For couriers and messengers, most employment is concentrated in Halifax. This is a young workforce with an average age of 33 years, and attrition is expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Courier  
Letter Carrier  
Mail Sorter  
Postal Clerk

### Related Occupations

Delivery Drivers



# Medical Secretaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1300**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**50**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Secretaries perform a variety of administrative duties in support of their employers. Activities may include scheduling appointments and maintaining a calendar; answering telephones; receiving and answering correspondence; ordering office supplies; maintaining files and record management systems; and preparing and managing budgets, expense accounts, and financial records. Medical secretaries interview patients to complete forms, documents, and case histories; initiate and maintain confidential medical records and files; and type medical records and other reports requiring knowledge of medical terminology.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need excellent grammar and communication skills. Accurate and fast typing speed is essential. You should have a working knowledge of computers, word processing software, and general office equipment. Interpersonal skills and the ability to work with others are important.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required, and completion of a one- or two-year college program for secretaries or medical secretaries is usually required.

### Employment Outlook

In contrast to most other secretarial positions, opportunities for medical secretaries will be slightly better in the coming years.

The use of computerized medical records systems, billing systems and other information technologies has increased in most medical offices and laboratories. Medical secretaries who are skilled in these and other new technologies may have an advantage over others when seeking employment in this field.

Increasingly, medical secretaries work for several doctors rather than one individual. This occupation has low levels of attrition and a large supply of labour, making this a competitive occupation. All medical office assistants in 2001 were female.

### Typical Jobs

Medical Secretary  
Ward Secretary

### Related Occupations

Clerical Workers – General  
Office Skills  
Court Recorders and  
Medical Transcriptionists

# Personnel and Recruitment Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**500**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**23**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Human resources (or personnel) officers identify and advertise job vacancies, recruit candidates, and assist in the selection and reassignment of employees.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions. Familiarity with computers would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Human Resources officers are required to have a bachelor's degree or diploma in a field related to personnel management, such as business administration, industrial relations, commerce, or psychology, or they must complete a professional development program in personnel administration.
- Some experience in a clerical or administrative position related to personnel administration may also be required by some employers.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of personnel and recruitment officers is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period. Personnel and recruitment officers are found across diverse industries. Human resource professionals will play an increasingly important role as competition for skilled workers intensifies. Opportunities are best for those with three to five years of work-related experience and Certified Human Resources accreditation. Personnel and recruitment officers are most likely to be hired by large- and medium-sized employers, and most employment opportunities are located in Halifax. This industry includes employment agencies and management consulting services.

### Typical Jobs

Human Resources Officer  
Personnel Officer  
Recruitment Specialist  
Staffing Analyst

### Related Occupations

Human Resource Officers  
and Specialists

# Property Administrators

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**32,000**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Property administrators rent apartments or offices, collect rents, and take care of records and other paperwork. They are also responsible for responding to calls and complaints and arranging for necessary repairs and renovations.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must be methodical and have basic numeracy skills to monitor rents, expenses, and the cost of repairs and maintenance.

### Employment Requirements

- Several years of administrative experience as a property clerk, contract clerk, or administrative officer are usually required to become a property manager. Property managers may also be required to complete training courses or vocational programs in property management or real estate.

### Employment Outlook

Opportunities for property administrators move in tandem with the multiple-unit residential housing and commercial property markets. Job growth is expected to be steady for this occupation in the coming years. One-third of persons in this occupation are 55 years of age or older, and retirements should contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years. Both part-time and self-employment are common for this occupation. Nova Scotia's aging population should create some demand for various types of suitable housing such as assisted-living arrangements and retirement communities.

### Typical Jobs

Accommodation Officer  
Apartment Rental Agent  
Property Administrator

### Related Occupations

Administrative Support Clerks  
Real Estate Agents and Salespersons

# Purchasing Agents and Officers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**



Estimated employment in 2005  
**320**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**25**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Purchasing agents buy general and specialized equipment, materials, and business services for use or for processing by their establishment.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions. Familiarity with computers would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree or diploma in business administration or engineering is often necessary to work as a purchasing officer. Extensive work experience as a purchasing officer is required to work in a management capacity.

### Employment Outlook

Employment for this occupation is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period.

Buying groups are becoming more popular and are replacing individual purchasing for medium- to large-sized organizations. The increased use of electronic systems to track inventory and automatically reorder supplies has negatively impacted demand for purchasing agents. The increased use of business-to-business e-commerce may reduce demand for purchasing agents.

### Typical Jobs

Contracts Officer  
Material Management Officer  
Procurement Officer  
Purchasing Agent

### Related Occupations

Recording, Scheduling, and Distributing Occupations  
Retail and Wholesale Buyers



# Medical Secretaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1300**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**50**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Secretaries perform a variety of administrative duties in support of their employers. Activities may include scheduling appointments and maintaining a calendar; answering telephones; receiving and answering correspondence; ordering office supplies; maintaining files and record management systems; and preparing and managing budgets, expense accounts, and financial records. Medical secretaries interview patients to complete forms, documents, and case histories; initiate and maintain confidential medical records and files; and type medical records and other reports requiring knowledge of medical terminology.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need excellent grammar and communication skills. Accurate and fast typing speed is essential. You should have a working knowledge of computers, word processing software, and general office equipment. Interpersonal skills and the ability to work with others are important.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required, and completion of a one- or two-year college program for secretaries or medical secretaries is usually required.

### Employment Outlook

In contrast to most other secretarial positions, opportunities for medical secretaries will be slightly better in the coming years.

The use of computerized medical records systems, billing systems and other information technologies has increased in most medical offices and laboratories. Medical secretaries who are skilled in these and other new technologies may have an advantage over others when seeking employment in this field.

Increasingly, medical secretaries work for several doctors rather than one individual. This occupation has low levels of attrition and a large supply of labour, making this a competitive occupation. All medical office assistants in 2001 were female.

### Typical Jobs

Medical Secretary  
Ward Secretary

### Related Occupations

Clerical Workers – General  
Office Skills  
Court Recorders and  
Medical Transcriptionists

# Personnel and Recruitment Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**500**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**23**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Human resources (or personnel) officers identify and advertise job vacancies, recruit candidates, and assist in the selection and reassignment of employees.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions. Familiarity with computers would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Human Resources officers are required to have a bachelor's degree or diploma in a field related to personnel management, such as business administration, industrial relations, commerce, or psychology, or they must complete a professional development program in personnel administration.
- Some experience in a clerical or administrative position related to personnel administration may also be required by some employers.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of personnel and recruitment officers is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period. Personnel and recruitment officers are found across diverse industries. Human resource professionals will play an increasingly important role as competition for skilled workers intensifies. Opportunities are best for those with three to five years of work-related experience and Certified Human Resources accreditation. Personnel and recruitment officers are most likely to be hired by large- and medium-sized employers, and most employment opportunities are located in Halifax. This industry includes employment agencies and management consulting services.

### Typical Jobs

Human Resources Officer  
Personnel Officer  
Recruitment Specialist  
Staffing Analyst

### Related Occupations

Human Resource Officers  
and Specialists

# Property Administrators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**830**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Property administrators rent apartments or offices, collect rents, and take care of records and other paperwork. They are also responsible for responding to calls and complaints and arranging for necessary repairs and renovations.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must be methodical and have basic numeracy skills to monitor rents, expenses, and the cost of repairs and maintenance.

### Employment Requirements

- Several years of administrative experience as a property clerk, contract clerk, or administrative officer are usually required to become a property manager. Property managers may also be required to complete training courses or vocational programs in property management or real estate.

### Employment Outlook

Opportunities for property administrators move in tandem with the multiple-unit residential housing and commercial property markets. Job growth is expected to be steady for this occupation in the coming years. One-third of persons in this occupation are 55 years of age or older, and retirements should contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years. Both part-time and self-employment are common for this occupation. Nova Scotia's aging population should create some demand for various types of suitable housing such as assisted-living arrangements and retirement communities.

### Typical Jobs

Accommodation Officer  
Apartment Rental Agent  
Property Administrator

### Related Occupations

Administrative Support Clerks  
Real Estate Agents and Salespersons

# Purchasing Agents and Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**580**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**25**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Purchasing agents buy general and specialized equipment, materials, and business services for use or for processing by their establishment.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent communication, organizational, and negotiation skills. You must have initiative and be willing to accept new ideas and take risks. The ability to analyze detailed information accurately and quickly is necessary in order to make decisions. Familiarity with computers would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree or diploma in business administration or engineering is often necessary to work as a purchasing officer. Extensive work experience as a purchasing officer is required to work in a management capacity.

### Employment Outlook

Employment for this occupation is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period.

Buying groups are becoming more popular and are replacing individual purchasing for medium- to large-sized organizations. The increased use of electronic systems to track inventory and automatically reorder supplies has negatively impacted demand for purchasing agents. The increased use of business-to-business e-commerce may reduce demand for purchasing agents.

### Typical Jobs

Contracts Officer  
Material Management Officer  
Procurement Officer  
Purchasing Agent

### Related Occupations

Recording, Scheduling, and Distributing Occupations  
Retail and Wholesale Buyers

# Recording, Scheduling, and Distributing Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**6210**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**183**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group of occupations is involved with the storage and movement of supplies, and the scheduling and sending of emergency vehicles and transportation equipment.

Parts clerks sort, store, and issue the parts and supplies for use and for sale, while production clerks coordinate and speed up the flow of work and materials within an organization and monitor the progress of construction projects.

Truck schedulers are responsible for preparing routes and schedules with an emphasis on time and cost-efficiency, while purchasing and inventory clerks process purchasing transactions and maintain inventories of materials, equipment, and stock. Dispatchers use telecommunications equipment to send emergency vehicles and to coordinate the activities of drivers and other personnel.

Shipping and receiving clerks prepare shipping documents; pack goods for shipping; inspect received goods; and maintain internal record systems.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you must be organized and attentive to detail. Your work must be accurate. Good communication skills are important. You need to be able to work as part of a team. Computer skills and the ability to work with technology may be helpful. Emergency dispatchers must be able to work in a high-stress environment.

### Employment Requirements

- To work in this field, completion of high school is generally required.
- Shippers, receivers, and parts clerks may also be required to have experience in related clerical occupations or as warehouse workers.
- Traffic control clerks and other production clerks may be required to have previous related experience.
- Purchasing and inventory clerks are usually required to have taken courses in purchasing management or inventory control. The ability to operate a computerized inventory system is preferred.
- Police and emergency dispatchers are usually required to complete formal on-the-job training. They may also be required to obtain a provincial radio operator's certificate.
- Several years of experience in an appropriate transportation sector may be required to gain employment as a transportation route and crew scheduler.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of recording, scheduling, and distributing occupations is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period.

Technological change is affecting this occupation. Computerized inventory systems, automated scheduling, statistical process control systems, and other innovations continue to create productivity gains. Computer skills are important for these occupations.

For purchasing and inventory clerks, buying groups are becoming more popular and are replacing individual store purchasing, which limits demand for this occupation. Because many clerks work in the manufacturing and wholesale trade sector, economic conditions impact employment opportunities.

### Typical Jobs

Inventory Clerk  
Ambulance Dispatcher  
Parts Clerk  
Shipping and Receiving Clerk  
Traffic Control Clerk  
Truck Scheduler

### Related Occupations

Emergency Medical Technicians  
Air Traffic Control Occupations  
Longshore Workers and Materials Handlers

# Secretaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**3850**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**151**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Secretaries perform a variety of administrative duties in support of managerial and professional employers. Activities may include scheduling appointments and maintaining a calendar; answering telephones; receiving and answering correspondence; ordering office supplies; maintaining files and records management systems; and preparing and managing budgets, expense accounts, and financial records. Executive secretaries prepare routine correspondence, greet visitors, record and prepare minutes of meetings, make reservations, and arrange travel schedules.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need excellent grammar and communication skills. Accurate and fast typing speed is essential. You should have a working knowledge of computers, word processing software, and general office equipment. Interpersonal skills and the ability to work with others are important.

### Employment Requirements

- Generally, you should have formal secretarial training or previous clerical experience to work in these fields. This training often includes completion of courses in business English, typing, accounting, and office procedures.

### Other Considerations

Computer use has drastically changed this occupation in recent years as many executives and professionals create their own documents and use e-mail as a primary mode of written communication. This has reduced the type of work traditionally done by secretaries. Some secretarial positions are being converted to office manager positions and more specialized clerical roles. It is increasingly common for secretaries to support teams rather than individuals.

Working in these occupations may cause back and neck strain due to sitting for long periods of time, as well as eye strain from computer screens.

### Employment Outlook

Due to the wide variety of businesses that employ people in these occupations, there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment evident. This occupation has a high rate of worker turnover. Retirements and attrition are expected to create some job openings. However, this is a very large occupational group in Nova Scotia, and there will be very little overall employment growth for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Executive Secretary  
Secretary

### Related Occupations

Administrative Officers  
Executive Assistants  
Legal Secretaries  
Medical Secretaries  
Court Recorders and Medical  
Transcriptionists

# Securities Agents, Investment Dealers, and Traders

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**450**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**15**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Securities agents buy and sell stocks, bonds and other financial products on behalf of their clients. They prepare long-term investment strategies for their clients to help them reach their financial goals. It is important to continually research and network to keep up with investment opportunities. Commodities traders and stock brokers or investment advisors buy and sell stocks, bonds, and other securities at stock exchanges on behalf of investment dealers. The development of trading strategies requires review of investment information and monitoring of market conditions.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have excellent organizational, analytical, and communication skills, both oral and written. Good judgement, integrity, and persistence are important. You must have an aptitude for mathematics and be capable of detailed and precise work. Business skills are essential.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's or master's degree in commerce, business administration, or economics, plus on-the-job training and industry courses/programs are usually required.
- Securities sales representatives and brokers are required to complete the Canadian Securities course and the Registered Representative Manual Exam offered by the Canadian Securities Institute.
- Investment dealers, investment traders, and securities agents must be licensed by the Nova Scotia Securities Commission to practise.
- Specialized courses are offered through such organizations as Investment Funds Institute and the Canadian Institute of Financial Planners. You should consult some local financial institutions to determine what type of training is available to assist you in gaining employment in your specific field of interest.

### Employment Outlook

These occupations are sensitive to prevailing economic conditions and the level of activity in financial markets. It is anticipated that there will be some growth fueled by demand for investment services by Nova Scotia's aging population. The growth of online brokerages could negatively impact this occupational group.

This is a competitive occupation, and there is demand for service-oriented professionals who have good IT skills and experience with financial software applications. Many positions are based on commission.

### Typical Jobs

Investment Dealer  
Securities Trader  
Commodity Trader  
Stockbroker  
Securities Agent

### Related Occupations

Financial and Investment Analysts  
Financial Planners and Other  
Financial Officers



## Canadian Forces Occupations



Photo: The Department of National Defence

## Earnings Potential

The annual salary will be dictated by the candidate's rank. The salary will increase with rank and with each year an individual remains in the CF.

NCM Estimated annual earnings for a new Private in 2005  
**\$29,052**

NCM Estimated annual earnings for a new Corporal in 2005  
**\$48,828**

Regular Force Estimated annual earnings for an Officer Cadet in 2005, while in university  
**\$15,936**

Regular Force Estimated annual earnings for an ROTP graduate (Second Lieutenant) in 2005  
**\$45,672**

Regular Force Estimated annual earnings for a new Captain in 2005 (attainable in four years)  
**\$63,096**

## Requirements

You must be a Canadian citizen, of good character, and able to meet the physical fitness standards to enter the Canadian Forces (CF). You must also meet the minimum requirement on CF aptitude tests and CF medical enrolment standards.

To join the Primary Reserve, you must be at least 16 years old. To join the Regular Force, you must be at least 17 years old.

To be a non-commissioned member (NCM), you must have successfully completed a minimum of Grade 10. To become a Regular Force officer, you must have successfully completed a minimum of a three-year university Bachelor's degree or complete an officer training program. You may be admitted to the Regular Officer Training Plan (ROTP) or Continuing Education Officer Training Plan (CEOTP) if you hold a Grade 12 diploma with courses in English, Mathematics, and Chemistry or Physics. There are also opportunities to serve as an officer in the reserves.

In addition to these basic requirements, there may be other age and education requirements that are specific to an occupation or entry plan. There are approximately 80 different occupations for NCMs and officers in the CF.

## Training Paths

Regular Forces: When you join the CF, you must complete basic training at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School in St. Jean, Quebec. Basic training is tough. It is designed to introduce you to the military, get you in top physical shape, and teach you basic military skills and discipline. It is recommended that you start a fitness program before entering basic training. The type and amount of further training will depend on the occupation you choose and will be provided at one or more of the many military teaching units throughout Canada. The time it takes to become qualified in the basics of an occupation may vary from a couple of months to several years.

The CF offers fully subsidized education to certain outstanding applicants. Some of these entry plans are:

1. Regular Officer Training Plan (ROTP) subsidized education for up to five years to complete a Bachelor's degree at the Royal Military College of Canada or occasionally at a civilian university. Following this education, you will receive a commission as a CF Officer and be employed in the CF for five or more years.

Individuals studying, or planning to study, nursing, pharmacy, or physiotherapy may be eligible for subsidized training through the civilian option of the ROTP. Applicants must have at least one full year of study left in their program.

Applications for ROTP are submitted by the end of February for processing in time for September.

2. Medical Officer Training Plan (MOTP) subsidized education for the last three years of medical school and a one- or two-year residency. When this is completed, you will be employed as a Medical Officer (doctor) in the CF.
3. Dental Officer Training Plan (DOTP) subsidized education for four years of dental school. Following dental school, you will be employed as a Dental Officer (dentist) in the CF.

For information on these and other subsidized education programs, contact the nearest Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre.

## Reserves

The part-time component of the CF is the Primary Reserve (PRes). People in the Reserves train part-time on nights and weekends from fall to spring and full-time for several weeks during the summer months. Often this training is done together with the Regular Force (fulltime) members. You may be a member of the PRes while a full-time student or in the workforce.

The Component Transfer program allows working members of the Reserves to transfer to a full-time job in the Regular Force. Landed immigrants may apply to the Reserves.

## Skills and Aptitudes

CF members must be able to work in demanding situations, sometimes for long periods. Self-motivation, discipline, and the ability to perform under stress are essential. You must be able to take direction but also have leadership skills. The CF is a team and its members need to work together to accomplish tasks. Therefore, you should be able to cooperate and communicate well with others. Candidates must always be willing to accept a challenge, whether it be a physical or mental challenge.

You may discuss the skills and aptitudes needed for specific occupations with CF recruiting personnel. PRes experience is considered an asset when you apply to join the Regular Force.

## Employment

Nationally, the CF comprises approximately 60,000 Regular Force members and 35,000 Primary Reserve members.

## Health Occupations



# Animal Health Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**330**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Animal health technicians assist veterinarians by caring for animals and assisting in the diagnosis and treatment of sick animals.

### Skills

You should have an interest in medicine and health as well as in animals. Manual dexterity and good coordination are necessary. You should be able to handle and restrain animals that may be distressed or in pain. If you work in a veterinary practice, you will require good interpersonal and communication skills to deal with pet owners.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a two-year Animal Health Technician or Veterinary Technician program or a three-year Veterinary Technologist program is required to practise as an animal health technician.

### Other Considerations

Although the majority of people in these occupations are employed full-time, part-time and casual work arrangements are common.

### Employment Outlook

Pet owners are becoming more willing to pay for advanced care for their family pets, which spurs employment growth for animal health technicians. Also, the availability of advanced veterinary services, such as preventative dental care and surgical procedures, may provide opportunities for workers specializing in those areas.

Biomedical facilities, diagnostic laboratories, wildlife facilities, humane societies, animal control facilities, and drug and food manufacturing companies will also provide jobs for animal health technicians. Increased demand for this occupation will stem

from a desire to replace veterinary assistants with more highly skilled technicians and technologists in animal clinics, hospitals, shelters, kennels and humane societies. Employment growth in this occupation is relatively stable and not generally affected by periods of economic recession.

### Typical Jobs

Veterinarian Assistant  
Veterinary Technologist  
Animal Health Technician

### Related Occupations

Pet Groomers and Animal Care Workers

# Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**220**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$25.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology is related to hearing, speech, language, and other communication disorders.

Audiologists diagnose hearing difficulties, select and fit hearing aids, design and implement hearing rehabilitation strategies, and provide information on noise exposure and hearing conservation.

Speech-language pathologists, on the other hand, diagnose, plan, and apply treatment in communication and swallowing disorders. They do this by designing and using augmentative communication strategies. They also aim to reduce accents and teach adaptation for students with language disabilities.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in health and in caring for the special needs of people.

Ingenuity, initiative, and imagination are needed to adapt activities to individual needs. You should be patient, self-disciplined, and resourceful. The ability to inspire confidence and to motivate clients is important. A strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, and communication skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- To work in this field, a master's degree in either speech-language pathology or audiology is the desired education standard, and is a requirement for certification with the Canadian Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA).
- Most employers require membership in and certification by CASLPA for employment.

### Employment Outlook

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists will continue to experience good employment opportunities.

Demand for audiologists will be spurred by our aging population, as hearing loss increases with age. Also, rapid developments in hearing aid technology may broaden the number of wearers as hearing aids are becoming smaller, more attractive, and increasingly effective. Demand for audiologists will also be created as medical advances improve the survival rate of premature infants and trauma and stroke victims, who then need assessment and possible treatment.

Similarly, there is anticipated growth in the employment of speech-language pathologists as our population ages and the possibility of neurological disorders and associated speech, language, swallowing, and

hearing impairments increases. For both occupations, the screening of newborns for hearing loss will increase early intervention services.

The average age of these occupations in Nova Scotia is 41 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings. Overall, despite the small size of this occupational grouping, it is anticipated that there will continue to be a strong job outlook.

### Typical Jobs

Audiologist  
Speech-Language Pathologist

### Related Occupations

Specialist Physicians  
Massage Therapists and Non-Medical Health Technicians



# Cardiology Technologists

## Labour Market Information

**Outlook**  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Cardiology technologists operate electronic diagnostic equipment to record cardiac activity or electrical activity of the brain and central nervous system.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be interested in medicine and health. Manual dexterity and good coordination are necessary. You must be able to deal with people in a mature, tactful, and professional way. You should also be comfortable working with instruments, apparatus, and technology. A background in science would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- To practise as a cardiology technologist or electrocardiograph technologist, you must complete high school and a one- to two-year college, hospital, or other training program in cardiology technology. This includes a supervised practical training experience.
- Upon completion of the program you must write the national registration exams administered by the Canadian Society of Cardiology Technologists (CSCT). Registration with CSCT is required.

### Other Considerations

Although the majority of people in these occupations are employed full-time, part-time, and casual work arrangements are common.

### Employment Outlook

Growth in this occupation will occur due to our aging population in Nova Scotia, because older people have a higher incidence of heart problems. Employment of cardiovascular technologists will grow as advances in vascular technology and sonography reduce the need for more costly and invasive procedures. However, job growth and replacement needs will produce

relatively few job openings because this is a small occupation in Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Cardiology Technologist

### Related Occupations

Respiratory Therapists and  
Clinical Perfusionists  
Electroencephalographic and  
Other Diagnostic Technologists

# Chiropractors

## Labour Market Information

**Outlook**  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**80**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Chiropractors focus on the spine in relation to the whole body, and specialize in the understanding and treatment of its bone structures, muscles, and nerves. They provide conservative management of neuro-musculo-skeletal disorders and related illnesses, including back, neck, limb, and head pain.

Chiropractors are concerned with the care of the entire body and are trained in physical diagnosis, including the use of x-rays and laboratory analysis. For example, chiropractors formulate clinical impressions of the patient's state of health, concentrating on spinal and structural assessment, and they are expert providers of spinal manipulation and other therapeutic manual adjustments.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be interested in the health and well-being of others. An interest in science, especially anatomy and physiology, is also important. You must be patient, tolerant, and sensitive to the needs of others. Good coordination and manual dexterity are necessary. Physical stamina may be needed as well.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a four- or five-year program at an accredited chiropractic educational institution and certification by the Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board are required to work in this field. You must successfully complete the national board examinations for certification.
- Registration with the Nova Scotia College of Chiropractors is required to work in this field in Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

Chiropractors are often self-employed and administer their services through private practices.

### Employment Outlook

General practitioners and family physicians increasingly refer patients to chiropractors for specialized treatment to help remove postural imbalances and structural misalignments that can accumulate in our bodies over time. As our population ages, it can be anticipated that there will be a greater demand for chiropractic services to help spinal function and increase mobility. Another factor driving demand for this occupation is the increased popularity of alternative medicine; chiropractors emphasize the importance of healthy lifestyles and preventative care, and do not prescribe medication or perform surgery.

Chiropractic services are covered in whole or in part by employee healthcare plans and by all provincial Workers' Compensation Boards. However, most chiropractors operate on a direct fee-for-service basis, which suggests that patients who want these services are willing to pay for them directly. Therefore, employment of chiropractors may not be as affected by government constraints as that of other healthcare providers. This is a relatively small occupational group and students must leave the province to obtain training.

### Typical Jobs

Chiropractor

### Related Occupations

Practitioners in Natural Healing  
Physiotherapists



# Continuing Care Assistants and Health Support Workers

## Labour Market Information

**Outlook**  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**5970**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**223**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals assist nurses, hospital staff, and physicians in the basic care of patients. They answer call signals, supply and empty bed pans, bathe and dress patients, serve meal trays, and assist with feeding. They may supervise patients' exercise routines and provide leisure activities. They take patients' blood pressure, temperature, and pulse, and perform other procedures as directed by nursing and hospital staff. They also transport patients and provide other support duties as required.

In Nova Scotia, these workers are known as continuing care assistants. They are trained to work both in institutional health care settings and in home health care.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient and accurate, yet sensitive to the needs of clients.

### Employment Requirements

- In Nova Scotia, the Department of Health and the continuing care industry now consider both personal care workers and home healthcare workers to be continuing care assistants. Completion of a certificate program that includes hands-on training in long-term care and home support is required to work as a continuing care assistant.

### Employment Outlook

The employment outlook for this occupation is good due to the increasing health needs of Nova Scotia's aging population and, associated with this, a greater need for in-home and long-term care services.

Approximately a third of personal care workers and continuing care assistants are registered with the Continuing Care Association of Nova Scotia.

Individuals with a continuing care assistant designation are eligible to work in long-term care facilities and in home care. Personal care workers certified prior to 2000 who have not obtained the continuing care assistant designation are eligible to work in long-term care facilities but not in home care.

This workforce is predominantly female with an average age of approximately 39 years, which is the same as the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Personal Care Attendant – Medical  
Hospital Orderly  
Continuing Care Assistant  
Personal Care Worker

### Related Occupations

Licensed Practical Nurses  
Visiting Homemakers  
and Housekeepers  
Pharmacy Assistants and  
Other Healthcare Assistants

## Dental Assistants

## Labour Market Information

**Outlook**  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**650**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**26**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Dental assistants work with dentists in the care and treatment of patients during dental procedures. Their duties include preparing patients for dental examinations; chairside assistance; exposing x-rays; sterilizing and maintaining equipment; performing laboratory procedures; scheduling appointments; and general office management. They may also polish tooth surfaces and apply fluoride treatments.

### Skills

To work in this occupation, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient and accurate, yet sensitive to the needs of patients. Good manual dexterity, hand-eye coordination, and an aptitude for detailed and precise work are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a licensed dental assistant in Nova Scotia, you must complete an accredited Level II Dental Assisting program.
- You must be a member of the Nova Scotia Dental Assistants' Association.

### Employment Outlook

The demand for dental assistants is influenced by the number of people seeking dental care and the frequency of their visits. It is expected that greater retention of natural teeth by Nova Scotia's elderly populations will increase demand for dental services.

Most dental assistants begin as Level 1 chair-side assistants and progress to Level 2 intra-oral assistants with the appropriate training and licensure. Opportunities to advance beyond this level and into related occupations appear limited due to the time and financial commitments involved.

The overwhelming majority of dental assistants in Nova Scotia are female and the workforce is relatively young, with an average age of

approximately 35 years. Because of this, there will be few job openings as a result of retirements in this occupation. Over half of all dental assistants in Nova Scotia are self-employed.

An increased use of computers for recording and assessing patient information will lead to new computer training needs for dental assistants. Those who stay abreast of new technologies may have an advantage over others when seeking employment in these fields.

### Typical Jobs

Dental Assistant

### Related Occupations

Dental Hygienists  
Dental Technologists and Technicians

# Dental Hygienists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**430**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**12**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Dental hygienists work under the supervision of licensed dentists. Dental hygienists work to prevent dental disease and help people maintain oral health, by performing such activities as exposing x-rays; making dental impressions; applying fluoride and sealants; scaling and polishing tooth surfaces; and giving oral hygiene instruction upon direction from the dentist.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient and accurate, yet sensitive to the needs of patients. Good

manual dexterity, hand-eye coordination, and an aptitude for detailed and precise work are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a dental hygienist in Nova Scotia, you must complete an accredited diploma program in Dental Hygiene and apply for licensure with the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia. The minimum entry requirements for dental hygienists to practise in Canada are currently under review.
- Membership in the Nova Scotia Dental Hygienists Association is required.

### Employment Outlook

An aging Nova Scotian population and increased public awareness for dental hygiene may increase demand for this occupation. Other factors that influence demand are legislation and the availability of health care insurance.

In some provinces, for example British Columbia, dental hygienists are able to independently practise outside the direct supervision of dentists. This allows them to practise in non-traditional and under-served settings. Similar legislative changes in Nova Scotia would impact this profession.

Oral health is not always covered by health insurance, particularly for seniors where it is not integrated into the overall healthcare service delivery

model. Also, lower-income individuals are far less likely to have dental insurance to cover oral health visits. An expansion of health plans to include oral health services would greatly affect demand for this occupation.

Dental hygienists in Nova Scotia are predominantly female (97%) and the average age is 38 years.

### Typical Jobs

Dental Hygienist

### Related Occupations

Dentists  
Dental Assistants  
Dental Technologists and Technicians

# Dental Technologists and Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**130**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Dental technologists are members of the dental health team who work in laboratories to construct and repair dental devices used in orthodontic treatment, such as bridgework and dentures. They also replicate artificial teeth and related structures. This work is always in accordance with the prescription of the dentist or specialist.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient and accurate, yet sensitive to the needs of patients. Hand-eye coordination and an aptitude for detailed and precise work are necessary. Artistic ability may also be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- A diploma in dental technology is required.
- Dental technicians must be registered with the Nova Scotia Dental Technicians Association to own and operate a dental laboratory in the province.
- To register, you must apply for and complete a minimum four-year apprenticeship (including the two years of training) and pass five examinations, written and practical. Apprenticeship must be done under the direct supervision of a registered technician in a registered dental laboratory.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation will grow, due the dental needs of our aging population and the increasing popularity of cosmetic procedures such as composite fillings.

The dental technician profession in Nova Scotia is limited by a lack of capital infrastructure for dental laboratories and shortages in the supply of qualified expertise in dental technology. A dental technician program has not been offered by the Nova Scotia Community College since 2001.

The majority of dental technicians in Nova Scotia are self-employed.

### Typical Jobs

Dental Technician  
Orthodontic Band Maker  
Ceramic Denture Caster  
Dental Technologist

### Related Occupations

Dental Hygienists  
Dental Assistants

# Dentists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**510**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**22**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$59.50 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Dentists examine, assess, diagnose, prevent, and treat disorders of the teeth and tissues of the mouth. For example, they remove decay and fill cavities, examine x-rays, place protective plastic sealants on children's teeth, straighten teeth, and repair fractured teeth. They perform dental hygiene procedures and counsel patients on their oral health.

Dentists also diagnose and correct abnormalities in the growth, development and positioning of teeth and other dental-facial structures; replace missing teeth; and correct irregularities of the mouth and jaw to improve speech, eating, and appearance.

They may specialize in the areas of oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral pathology, periodontics, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial radiology, prosthodontics, and public health dentistry.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be able to work carefully with your hands and have an aptitude for precise and accurate work. You should be able to work with mirror images. A reassuring manner is needed to help patients feel relaxed. You must be comfortable working with instruments and apparatus. Basic skills in operating a business are important. Artistic ability may also be helpful. You must be willing to continually update your knowledge and skills.

### Employment Requirements

- You must complete a dental program from an accredited dental school granting a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS).
- After graduation you must attain certification from the National Dental Examining Board and be licensed by the Dental Board of Nova Scotia to work in this field.
- Membership in the Nova Scotia Dental Association is also required.

### Other Considerations

Most dentists are self-employed and operate their own practices.

### Employment Outlook

The demand for dental services is influenced by factors such as improvements in oral hygiene that allow elderly people to keep their teeth longer, public awareness about dental health, the availability of dental insurance, and the popularity of cosmetic dentistry. In Nova Scotia, there will be increased demand for adult dental care such as diagnostic, preventative, operative, fixed prosthodontics, endodontics, implants, and orthodontic services, due to our aging population. Also, growth in employee dental care plans and the increasing popularity of cosmetic and esthetic procedures will spur demand for dental services in coming years.

The average age of dentists is 44 years, which is one of the highest in the health occupations in Nova Scotia. Because of this, some employment demand due to retirement can be expected in the coming years. Paediatric dentists and other specialists in oral pathology and oral surgery have a particularly high number of practitioners approaching retirement. Job openings due to employment growth and attrition are roughly equal.

### Typical Jobs

Orthodontist  
Oral Surgeon  
Periodontist  
Pediatric Dentist  
Oral Radiologist  
Public Health Dentist

### Related Occupations

Dental Hygienists  
Dental Assistants  
Dental Technologists and Technicians

# Dietitians and Nutritionists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
390

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
14

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$19.50 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Dietitians and nutritionists plan and supervise programs in nutrition, diet, and food service. They develop individual nutrition programs in hospitals, nursing homes, and schools, and they provide nutrition counselling and consulting.

Public health nutritionists focus on public education and prevention programs for the groups in their area, as well as helping in the development of public policy as it relates to public health.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be interested in helping people, working in partnership with others, and promoting healthy lifestyles. You should have an aptitude for science. Good judgement, organizational skills, and leadership skills are important. You must be creative, tactful, and tolerant of others.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a four-year accredited bachelor's degree program plus a one-year accredited dietetic internship or an accredited Integrated Internship Education program or a recognized master's degree are required to be registered as a dietitian in Nova Scotia.
- People in this occupation must be licensed by the Nova Scotia Dietetic Association. You must also successfully complete the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination.
- A variety of titles are used by people to describe their work in nutrition-related practice. However, only dietitians who have met national standards for education and training and who are members of the provincial regulatory body can technically use the designation Dietitian or Nutritionist.

### Other Considerations

Most dietitians and nutritionists work regular hours; however, those in hospitals may work evenings, weekends, or holidays.

### Employment Outlook

With an increased consumer interest in healthy eating and the explosion of the information economy, the role of dietitians and nutritionists will continue to broaden. Although most dietitians are employed in hospitals and long-term care settings, some other roles include: counselling individuals and groups through private practices; assisting the food industry with consumer research, product development and marketing; advocating healthy eating; and tackling the issue of food security at food banks and community agencies.

A recent federal government report identifies "pharmacists, dietitians and nutritionists" as one of the fastest-growing job sectors in the country over the next five years. Approximately one-fifth of dietitians are trained at the Master's level; feedback from employers indicates that there is a shortage of qualified people at a Master's level. There has been a lack of funding for full-time dietitians and nutritionists in community settings in Nova Scotia, resulting in recruitment challenges, especially in rural areas and long-term care facilities.

There is limited access by the public to community-based, primary healthcare nutrition services across Canada because these services are typically not covered by medical services insurance. Despite these challenges, employment growth for dietitians and nutritionists is expected to be strong.

### Typical Jobs

Registered Nutritionist  
Registered Dietitian  
Public Health Nutritionist  
Clinical Dietitian  
Consultant Dietitian  
Administrative Dietitian

### Related Occupations

Practitioners in Natural Healing  
Sales and Service Supervisors

# Electroencephalographic and Diagnostic Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
70

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
3

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$18.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Electroneurophysiology technologists operate electronic diagnostic equipment to record cardiac activity or electrical activity of the brain and the central nervous system, and may perform electroencephalography (EEG) or electromyography (EMG).

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be interested in medicine and health. You must be able to deal with people in a mature, tactful, and professional way. You should also be comfortable working with instruments, apparatus, and technology. A background in science would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Electroneurophysiology technologists may complete a two-year college or hospital-based program in electrophysiology technology. Duration of the hospital-based program varies from 24 to 36 months, dependent upon the modalities taught. Graduates of the college program require significant supervised practical training of up to 24 months to ensure eligibility for registration examinations.
- Students in the EEG program must be registered with the Canadian Board of Registration of Electroencephalograph Technologists, and those in the EMG program must be registered with the Board of Registration of Electromyography Technologists of Canada.

### Other Considerations

Although the majority of people in these occupations are employed full-time, part-time and casual work arrangements are common.

### Employment Outlook

Electroencephalographic technologists are used to help diagnose and evaluate head trauma, stroke, infectious disease, brain tumours, sleeping disorders, epilepsy, and other medical conditions. This is a relatively small occupational group in Nova Scotia. There will be demand for these professionals in the coming years to meet the healthcare needs of Nova Scotia's aging population.

Increasingly, technologists have been performing EEGs in the operating room, which requires that they understand anesthesia's effect on brain waves. For special procedures, technologists may secure electrodes to the chest, arm, leg, or spinal column to record activity from both the central and peripheral nervous systems.

Most electroencephalographic technologists work in hospitals. However, some are also employed in private laboratories and clinics. Electroencephalographic technologists may advance to become clinical specialists or supervisors. However, without additional education, opportunities for advancement are limited.

### Typical Jobs

Electromyography (EMG) Technician  
EEG Technologist

### Related Occupations

Medical Radiation Technologists  
Cardiology Technologists  
Medical Sonographers



# Emergency Medical Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**710**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**22**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Paramedics provide pre-hospital emergency medical care to patients and transport them to hospitals or other medical facilities for further medical attention.

A Paramedic Level I may work as part of a ground ambulance crew, emergency department triage, or dispatch communications.

A Paramedic Level III may work as part of a ground ambulance crew, dispatch communications, emergency department paramedic, or flight crew. A basic life support (BLS) crew consists of two Paramedic Level I's, while an advanced life support (ALS) crew must have at least one Paramedic Level III.

Duties include lifesaving pre-hospital care such as defibrillation, giving medications, advanced airway management, and transport to a medical facility. Additionally, the paramedic must keep detailed documentation, provide testimony in a court of law, and maintain ambulances and equipment.

## Skills

Paramedics work in a physically demanding environment and must maintain a high level of strength and fitness. Paramedics are often involved in highly stressful situations that require the ability to make accurate, rapid decisions that can greatly affect the health of a patient. Effective communication skills are essential as the paramedic must routinely interact with patients, family members, health care providers, and other emergency services including fire and police agencies.

## Employment Requirements

- To work as a paramedic in Nova Scotia, you will require completion of a college, hospital-based or other program in primary care paramedicine, which has been approved by Emergency Health Services (EHS) or is CMA-accredited. To work as a Paramedic Level III, you require experience as a Paramedic Level I and completion of a program in advanced care paramedicine.
- Nova Scotia has an intermediate level between the Paramedic Level I and the Paramedic Level III, the Intermediate Care Paramedic (ICP). Since this level is not accredited or recognized nationally, EHS no longer accepts new registrants at this level, although existing paramedics at this level may continue to practise in Nova Scotia.
- In addition to training, you must complete an in-service Personal Care Report (PCR) to qualify for registration.
- You must hold a valid Class IV driver's licence.

## Other Considerations

People in these occupations are usually required to work irregular hours, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

## Employment Outlook

Employment growth for EMTs is linked to the demand for healthcare services in general.

As Nova Scotia's baby boomer population ages, it can be anticipated that there will be a related increase in demand for EMTs. Most jobs for EMTs are found in ambulance services. In Nova Scotia, the ground ambulance system is regulated by the Department of Health and managed by a private company, Emergency Medical Care, Inc. The majority of EMTs are between 20 and 35 years of age. Therefore, the number of job openings due to retirement will be limited.

## Typical Jobs

Emergency Medical Technician  
Advanced Care Paramedic  
Critical Care Paramedic  
Primary Care Paramedic  
Paramedic

## Related Occupations

Recording, Scheduling, and  
Distributing Occupations  
Licensed Practical Nurses

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1010**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**44**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BLOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$74.25 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Family physicians, or general practitioners (GPs), are responsible for managing their patients' primary care. They provide primary contact and continuing and comprehensive care to patients of all ages. This includes examining patients; ordering laboratory tests, x-rays and other diagnostic procedures; prescribing and administering medications and treatments; performing routine surgical procedures; and performing related tasks. They give their patients and their families health-related advice, such as information on nutrition, exercise, accident prevention, and healthy lifestyle choices.

### Skills

Compassion, sensitivity, and a desire to help people are important. Physicians must take final responsibility for their decisions and the effects they have on patients' lives. Therefore, emotional stability, ethics, maturity, and good judgement are essential. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are important. You should be able to inspire confidence and put people at ease. You must be willing to continually update your knowledge and skills. Good health and stamina may be needed, as physicians often work long hours.

### Employment Requirements

- People in this profession must complete an accredited medical program at an approved medical school granting a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree, complete residency training in their area of practice, and have a licence to practise medicine. This is granted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

Most physicians are self-employed and administer their services through private practices. Most physicians are paid by fee-for-service where earnings depend upon the fees paid by the government for various services and the number of patients served.

Some physicians are paid through alternative funding plans.

Family physicians tend to work long and irregular hours, especially those physicians who operate their own practices or work in small groups.

### Employment Outlook

Nova Scotia has one of the country's oldest populations and some of its highest chronic disease rates. These factors, combined with technological advances in diagnosis and treatment, will contribute to increasing demands for health services in coming years. In order to meet this demand for healthcare services, Nova Scotia has increased the healthcare budget. To ensure adequate doctor-to-student ratios in the coming years, an additional eight seats have been added at Dalhousie Medical School. However, it is anticipated that despite increased enrolment numbers, graduates will not likely meet demand and there will continue to be a particular need for general practitioners in rural areas.

It is anticipated that this profession will see productivity gains as new technologies allow general practitioners to increase diagnostic treatment on patients as well as provide preventative care and interventions. As a result, they may perform more procedures and treat more conditions than they have previously.

The average age of family physicians in Nova Scotia is 44 years. This is somewhat higher than the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements can be expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

General Practitioner  
Family Physician  
Medical Doctor

### Related Occupations

Chiropractors  
Specialist Physicians

# Licensed Practical Nurses

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**3100**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**127**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

A licensed practical nurse (LPN) provides physical and supportive care to patients of all ages within a controlled nursing situation. LPNs use their knowledge to recognize variations from normal to determine when to report changes in patient condition.

LPNs may work independently or under the supervision of a physician or registered nurse, depending on the level of care and observation needed. Additionally, shift work is typical in such an occupation.

### Skills

Individuals entering this profession should enjoy caring for people of all ages. Good communication skills and interpersonal skills are also very important. Physical demands include moving and lifting others, and spending long periods of time on one's feet. LPNs must be able to cope with stress and occasional emergency situations.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), you must complete an approved Practical Nursing program, and write a national examination.
- After passing this exam, you must be licensed with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia in order to practise and use the designated title of Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).

### Other Considerations

Changes in the healthcare delivery system in Nova Scotia may affect job opportunities in these occupations as well as the location and type of establishment employing these workers. Growth will occur in other healthcare organizations involved in the provision of community-based healthcare and home care.

### Employment Outlook

The rising healthcare needs of our aging population is expected to provide increased employment opportunities in hospitals, community care, and long-term care facilities and in nursing homes. This will result in increased demand for licensed practical nurses. There will also be an increasing need for LPNs to learn new skills to accommodate a shift from institutional to in-home care. Job openings due to retirement can be expected in coming years because one-quarter of licensed practical nurses in Nova Scotia are 50 years of age or older.

### Typical Jobs

Licensed Practical Nurse

### Related Occupations

Registered Nurses  
Continuing Care Assistants  
and Health Support Workers

# Massage Therapists and Non-Medical Health Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
180

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
6

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$13.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Massage therapists develop treatment plans and administer massage therapy and other treatments such as whirlpool baths, hot compresses, or ice packs.

Other workers in this group work closely with health professionals, such as audiologists, speech-language pathologists, ophthalmologists, and physiotherapists while assessing or treating patients.

Audio prosthetists assess and fit patients for hearing aids. Audiometric assistants conduct hearing tests and record the results. Communications assistants carry out programs to help patients with speech and hearing disorders.

Ophthalmic medical assistants assess patient's vision, record test results, assist ophthalmologists in office surgery, and administer eye drops and medications.

Physical rehabilitation technicians assist physiotherapists by carrying out treatment programs, such as massage, traction, or hydrotherapy, to rehabilitate injured or disabled individuals.

### Skills

You must be able to communicate effectively with people and demonstrate a strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, patience, and self-discipline. Therapists must be creative and unique in their approach to each client. The ability to inspire confidence and to motivate clients is important. A strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, and communication skills are also necessary. Massage therapists also require physical stamina.

### Employment Requirements

- Massage therapists require completion of an 18- to 24-month, or 2200-hour, program in massage therapy from an accredited school, plus supervised practical training.
- Audio prosthetists require completion of a two- or three-year college program in audio prosthetics.
- Communication and audiometric assistants require either completion of a 12- to 18-month program in communicative disorders or some post-secondary education and on-the-job training.
- Ophthalmic assistants need either completion of a nine-month college program or a minimum of one year of supervised practical training under an ophthalmologist and completion of an approved ophthalmic assistant home-study program.
- Physical rehabilitation technicians require completion of a three-year college program in physical rehabilitation therapy.

### Other Considerations

Those not employed with public institutions or agencies are often self-employed in a private or group practice.

### Employment Outlook

As Nova Scotia's population ages there will be an increase in demand for the services provided by this occupational group, specifically for hearing aids, vision care and physiotherapy. An increase in demand for services related to home care is also anticipated.

Some future openings will result from above-average employee turnover, due to lower than average earnings and relatively few opportunities for career advancement in these occupations. It should be noted that there can be a wide range of incomes for professions in this category and for different workplace settings. Part-time employment is common in this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Massage Therapist  
Ophthalmic Assistant  
Physical Rehabilitation Technician  
Speech Therapy Aide

### Related Occupations

Pharmacy Assistants and Other  
Health Care Assistants

# Medical Laboratory Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**420**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**19**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Medical laboratory technicians play an important supportive role in medical labs. Medical laboratory assistants and blood bank technicians may collect blood, tissue, or other samples from patients, log patient samples, and prepare them for testing. They also assist medical laboratory technologists by conducting routine medical laboratory tests and setting up, cleaning, and maintaining medical laboratory equipment.

### Skills

This work demands close attention to detail. You must have good manual dexterity and be comfortable working with instruments and technology. Good communication skills and the ability to cooperate with others are important. You should be responsible, dependable, and willing to keep pace with rapid developments in the field.

### Employment Requirements

- Medical laboratory technicians require at least a high school diploma with courses in science and mathematics and either on-the-job training or a one- to two-year college program in medical laboratory technology. Approximately 80% of medical laboratory technicians currently working in Nova Scotia have some form of post-secondary training.
- Certification as a medical laboratory assistant is available through the Canadian Society of Medical Laboratory Science. An approved medical laboratory assistant program must be completed before writing the exam.

### Employment Outlook

The growth rate for this occupation is slightly above the average growth rate for all occupations. Factors contributing to employment growth in this occupation are an aging population that requires more healthcare services, the introduction of new diagnostic and treatment technologies, and increased government funding for healthcare services.

The increased use of portable laboratory instruments and testing kits, the growth of shared laboratory services among healthcare providers, and major breakthroughs in diagnostic techniques should positively impact growth in this occupation. Retraining and professional development will be important for workers in this field.

### Typical Jobs

Cytotechnologist  
Blood Bank Technician  
Medical Laboratory Assistant  
Medical Laboratory Technician

### Related Occupations

Medical Laboratory Technologists



# Medical Laboratory Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
890

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
42

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$21.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Medical laboratory technologists (MLTs) play a pivotal role in health care. It has been estimated that 85 percent of medical diagnostic decisions are made on the basis of laboratory results.

MLTs collect and handle laboratory specimens, conduct complex laboratory tests and experiments studies, analyze specimens, and interpret quality-control data to verify the accuracy and precision of test results for use by health-care practitioners in diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.

General MLTs may specialize in one, or perform duties in all, of the following disciplines: Microbiology, Chemistry, Histology, Transfusion Science, and Haematology.

General MLTs analyze blood, urine, and other body fluids (Chemistry); prepare tissue sections for detection of disease (Histology); differentiate blood cells and detect blood disorders/diseases (Haematology); perform blood group, type and compatibility tests for transfusion purposes (Transfusion Science); and identify and perform susceptibilities on a broad range of disease-causing (pathogenic) and opportunistic micro-organisms such as *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Microbiology).

MLTs with subject certification perform duties in diagnostic cytology or Clinical Genetics. Cytotechnologist MLTs observe and detect changes in cells associated with cancer. Clinical Genetic MLTs perform tests on chromosomes, DNA, and RNA to allow detection of genetic diseases (specimens include body fluids and tissues).

All MLTs may be involved in research and development plus molecular testing. MLTs train and supervise other laboratory personnel such as MLT students, medical residents, registered nurses and other health-care professionals.

### Skills

This work demands accuracy and close attention to detail. You must have good manual dexterity and be comfortable working with instruments and technology, including information technology. Good communication skills and the ability to work with various health professionals are important. Although teamwork is essential, an MLT must be self-sufficient and able to work independently, be capable of critical thinking, and exercise good judgement. You must be flexible, open to change, and willing to keep pace with rapid developments in the field.

### Employment Requirements

- Medical laboratory technologists need a two- to three-year program in Medical Laboratory Technology and a period of supervised, relevant work experience, or a Medical Laboratory Science degree.
- To be certified, technologists must successfully complete the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science national exams. A student who has completed the appropriate program can write General, Diagnostic Cytology, or Clinical Genetics certification examination(s).
- Medical Laboratory Technologists must obtain a practising license from the Nova Scotia College of Medical Laboratory Technologists.

### Other Considerations

Depending on the size and type of institution, people in these occupations may be required to work evenings, weekends, or holidays.

### Employment Outlook

The technology in this field is constantly changing, and laboratory technologists must constantly upgrade their skills. A large proportion of diagnostic and physicians' decisions are made based on tests performed by these occupations.

As demand for healthcare services increases due to Nova Scotia's aging population, there will be an increased need for workers in these occupations. It is anticipated that there could be significant supply shortages of medical laboratory technicians and pathologists' assistants in the next five years. Past cutbacks to training programs in Nova Scotia coupled with projected high retirements will further exacerbate supply shortages.

### Typical Jobs

Medical Laboratory Technologist  
Cytotechnologist  
Histology Technologist  
Clinical Genetic Medical Laboratory Technologist

### Related Occupations

Medical Laboratory Technicians

# Medical Radiation Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**510**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**24**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Magnetic resonance technologists use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology to study the cardiovascular system, detect tumours, study body chemistry and functions, and image soft tissues such as muscles, tendons, or arteries.

Nuclear medicine technologists perform diagnostic imaging using technology such as PET scans, usually involving the injection of radioactive drugs. They evaluate coronary disease, study how organs function, determine the location of tumours, monitor the progression of cancer and the results of treatments, and diagnose hormonal disorders.

Radiological technologists take x-rays or perform CAT scans, mammograms, angiography, or fluoroscopy. They may specialize in one of these procedures.

Radiation therapists are key members of cancer treatment teams. They use focused beams of radiation to destroy tumours. Individuals in these occupations explain procedures, answer questions and put patients at ease, and monitor patients.

### Skills

This work demands skill, accuracy, and close attention to detail. You should be efficient yet sensitive to patients' needs. Integrity and a strong sense of responsibility are important, as your results may affect a diagnosis or treatment. You must also be comfortable working with technology and able to keep up with new advances in the field.

### Employment Requirements

- People in this field must successfully complete a three- to four-year college, hospital school, or other approved diploma or degree program in diagnostic radiography or nuclear medicine technology, or they may take a 27-month radiation therapy diploma program.
- Nuclear medicine technologists and radiological technologists must complete a four-year bachelor's degree in an accredited program.
- As part of or upon completion of their training, they must undergo a period of supervised practical training, and be registered with the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) and the Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NSAMRT).

### Other Considerations

Depending on the size and type of institution, people in these occupations may be required to work evenings, weekends, or holidays.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation across Canada and internationally means that graduates are presented with a variety of employment opportunities. In Nova Scotia demand for this occupation is expected to increase due to the healthcare needs of our aging population, the introduction of new diagnostic and treatment technologies, and increased government funding for healthcare through the federal health accord and provincial commitments. Demand is also projected to increase as new tests are developed and the volume of tests is expected to increase.

Some jobs may be negatively affected by productivity gains from the automation of certain tests. However, overall it is expected that medical radiation technologists will see job growth in the coming years, particularly in HRM and Cape Breton.

### Typical Jobs

Nuclear Medicine Technologist  
Medical Radiation Technologist  
Magnetic Resonance Technologist  
Radiation Therapist  
Radiological Technologist

### Related Occupations

Respiratory Therapists and Clinical Perfusionists  
Cardiology Technologists  
Medical Sonographers  
Electroencephalographic and Other Diagnostic Technicians

# Medical Sonographers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**100**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Medical sonographers use high-frequency sound waves, specialized equipment, and other diagnostic techniques to collect detailed information on the anatomical, physiological, and pathological state of patients. Sonographers produce and evaluate ultrasound images that are used for medical diagnosis.

### Skills

You should be interested in medicine and health. You must be able to deal with people in a mature, tactful, and professional way. You should also be comfortable working with instruments, apparatus, and technology. A background in science would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a three-year diploma or four-year degree program is required to become a diagnostic medical sonographer in Nova Scotia.
- Registration with the Canadian Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (CSDMS) or a provincial body may be required.
- Registration with the Canadian Association of Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) is required by most employers. Currently, candidates must successfully complete the ARDMS examinations to register with the CSDMS and/or CARDUP.

### Other Considerations

Although the majority of people in these occupations are employed full-time, part-time and casual work arrangements are common.

### Employment Outlook

With rapidly developing new technologies and an increased use of diagnostic ultrasound procedures, some employment growth is expected. Demand is also expected to increase due to stress on the healthcare system stemming from our aging population. Rural areas of Nova Scotia are experiencing recruitment challenges for this occupation. Medical sonographers are generally employed in a hospital setting (93 percent in Nova Scotia). However, career advancement opportunities may also exist in education, administration, and research, and in commercial companies as application specialists, sales representatives, and technical advisors. The number of future job openings will reflect the small size of this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Ultrasound Technologist  
Medical Sonographer

### Related Occupations

Medical Radiation Technologists  
Electroencephalographic and Other  
Diagnostic Technicians

# Occupational Therapists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**310**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**12**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$23.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Occupational therapists help people with physical and mental disabilities live as independently as possible and perform day-to-day activities. They assess a client's current level of functioning and their potential for improvement; develop and implement a treatment plan in the client's home, workplace, or other environments; maintain clinical and statistical records; design programs for the community; and conduct research. They work together with their clients to help them to perform occupations that are useful and meaningful to them.

Occupational therapists may supervise occupational therapist assistants, and are accountable for service components assigned to them.

### Skills

To work in occupational therapy, you must have a genuine and sensitive interest in people and their ability to achieve. You must be able to communicate effectively with people and demonstrate a strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, patience, and self-discipline. Occupational therapists must be creative and unique in their approach to each client.

### Employment Requirements

- To become an occupational therapist, you are required to have a Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy. As of 2010, a master's degree will be the minimum entry requirement for professional practice in Canada.

- Following completion of this degree, you must successfully complete the National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapists and be licensed by the College of Occupational Therapists of Nova Scotia to practise in Nova Scotia.

### Employment Outlook

The occupational therapist workforce in Nova Scotia is one of the youngest among health professionals, with an average age of 35 years, and is predominantly female (83 percent). Although the majority of occupational therapists are employed in urban hospital settings, it is anticipated that there will be a shift towards community-based practices with more occupational therapists operating in a self-employed capacity. Aging population demographics will reinforce this trend.

Job growth has also been influenced by increasing acceptance of rehabilitation as a practical alternative to long-term care in institutions. The role of occupational therapists is expanding to include mental outpatient service delivery and continuing care services. The slow growth of private practice listings in Nova Scotia is perhaps linked to the lack of comprehensive private health insurance coverage for occupational therapy services. Despite this, job prospects remain good.

### Typical Jobs

Occupational Therapist

### Related Occupations

Recreational Therapists and Other Specialized Therapists

# Opticians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Opticians make prescriptions from either an ophthalmologist or an optometrist into a pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses exactly made for the individual.

The optician helps each client choose the most suitable lenses and frames. Once the eyeglasses and contact lenses have been produced, the prescription must be verified and the glasses or lenses dispensed. In the case of contact lenses, the optician provides information on procedures for inserting, removing, and cleaning the lenses.

### Skills

This work demands close attention to detail and an ability to work precisely and accurately. You should enjoy working with the general public and be approachable, reassuring, and sensitive to their needs. Opticians require the ability to work alone, as well as a member of a team, in a busy retail environment.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a two- or three-year college program in ophthalmic dispensing, which includes an apprenticeship feature, is required.
- Opticians must have a current Certificate of Registration. This is issued by the Board of Dispensing

Opticians of the Province of Nova Scotia.

- A contact lens fitter will need to have special certification issued by the Board.

### Other Considerations

People in this occupation usually work regular hours; however, evening and weekend shifts may be required.

### Employment Outlook

The majority of opticians in Nova Scotia work in an urban retail setting; the rest work in manufacturing and health settings. It is expected that the increasing popularity of laser surgery among younger people to correct vision problems permanently will negatively impact the sale of

eyewear. Demand for opticians' services is also influenced by fashion; often people will own more than one pair of glasses in a variety of styles and colours.

Few opticians in Nova Scotia are certified to fit and dispense contact lenses, which limits the growth of this profession. The majority of the public go to optometrists for contact lens fittings.

### Typical Jobs

Dispensing Optician  
Eyeglass and Contact Lens Fitter  
Research Optician  
Ophthalmic Dispenser

### Related Occupations

Optometrists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
90

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
4

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$37.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Optometrists are healthcare professionals who diagnose disorders and diseases of the human eye. They use instruments, procedures (other than surgery), or agents to measure, examine, and diagnose visual problems or abnormal conditions of the eye. They prescribe and fit glasses, contact lenses, and other devices for correction, relief, or treatment, and prescribe, supervise, and manage therapy to improve or monitor visual health.

The optometrist works hand in hand with other members of the eyecare team in ensuring that patients are referred appropriately for diagnostic and therapeutic needs.

### Skills

This work demands good hand-eye coordination and an aptitude for precision and accuracy. You should be comfortable working with delicate instruments and apparatus. Patience, tact, and the ability to put people at ease is important. You should also have good communication and interpersonal skills. Since most optometrists run their own practices, some business skills would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- To prepare for a program in optometry, you will require one to three years of college or university with math and science orientation, and you must complete a four-year university program accredited by the Canadian Examiners in Optometry and Canadian Optometric Regulatory Authorities.
- Graduates must satisfy professional board requirements in order to practice. In Nova Scotia, a person working in this occupation must be licensed as a Doctor of Optometry with the Nova Scotia Association of Optometrists.

### Other Considerations

Earnings depend upon the number of patients served and the services provided. Optometrists who are self-employed have considerable flexibility in their hours of work. Some may work on Saturdays or evenings to meet the needs of their patients.

### Employment Outlook

It is anticipated that this profession will see productivity gains due to rapid changes in diagnostic and treatment technology and greater use of optometrist assistants. This will allow each optometrist to see more patients while maintaining the same level of vision care, which will limit employment growth. Those who stay abreast of new technologies may have an advantage over others seeking employment these fields. However, demand will continue to increase because our aging population requires more healthcare; technology advances have increased the ability to diagnose and treat diseases; employee vision-care plans are becoming more common; and treatment facilities are opening up in retail stores, making them more accessible to a wider range of people.

For these reasons employment is expected to grow, and the number of job openings will likely be greater than the number of recent graduates. The average age of optometrists is approximately 43 years, which is higher than the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Some job openings due to retirements can be expected. Job openings due to attrition are not very common for this occupation because optometrists usually practice until they retire and few transfer to other occupations. The vast majority of optometrists are self-employed.

### Typical Jobs

Optometrist

### Related Occupations

Opticians



# Pharmacists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1050**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**40**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$27.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Community and hospital pharmacists are an integral part of the healthcare team. They provide recommendations to other healthcare providers on medication; interpret and evaluate prescriptions; keep records of controlled drugs; and order and maintain stock of supplies. They work with patients to provide instruction on how to use a particular medication, and explain the value, content, hazards, side effects, and proper storage. They maintain patient drug profiles, and monitor drug interactions, adverse reactions, and patient's compliance with their drug treatment. They also advise clients on selection and use of non-prescription medicines.

Other activities include providing information on drugs to other healthcare professionals and patients, preparing medicines from natural and synthetic sources, and compounding drugs.

Industrial pharmacists participate in the research and manufacture of pharmaceutical products; and formulate and test new drug products developed by medical researchers.

### Skills

To work as a pharmacist, you should have an interest in helping people in a healthcare environment. You should have an interest in chemistry and an aptitude for detail, precision, and accuracy. Effective communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills are essential. You must be patient and able to deal with people in a mature, tactful, and empathetic way.

### Employment Requirements

- A Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, a period of practical training or apprenticeship, and successful completion of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada examinations are required for you to practise as a pharmacist. Pharmacists must also be licensed with the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists.
- A master's or Ph.D. degree is usually required for research and teaching positions, and often for administrative positions.

### Other Considerations

Although many are employed by retail establishments, a large proportion own their own businesses.

### Employment Outlook

The large drug requirements of an aging population and the rapid development of new drugs have increased the demand for pharmacists in Nova Scotia. The role of pharmacists has also expanded. Pharmacists increasingly have a role in primary and preventative care, and provide counselling and advice in addition to dispensing drugs.

They have broadened the use of technology through customer and pharmaceutical databases.

A recent federal government report identifies "pharmacists, dietitians and nutritionists" as one of the fastest-growing job sectors in the country over the next five years.

Employment opportunities will continue to emerge for pharmacists in research, marketing, and sales in biotechnology; pharmacy outlets in department and grocery stores; and the insurance and pharmaceutical industries. Limited growth in the employment of hospital pharmacists is expected in the near future, in response to limited funding for health care. Counterbalancing this, there may be an increase in opportunities for pharmacists to practise in long-term and community-based home care settings as our population ages.

Mail-order pharmacies and the substitution of pharmacy technicians for pharmacists should, over the longer term, moderate the current strong demand for pharmacists. The average age of pharmacists is 39 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Clinical Pharmacist  
Community Pharmacist  
Industrial Pharmacist  
Hospital Pharmacist  
Pharmacist

### Related Occupations

Biologists and Related Scientists  
Chemists

# Pharmacy Assistants and Other Healthcare Assistants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1700**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**60**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

People in these occupations provide specialized services and assistance to healthcare professionals.

Orthopaedic technologists assist orthopaedic surgeons by applying casts, splints, and bandages. Pharmacy assistants support pharmacists by compounding, packaging, and labeling pharmaceutical prescriptions. Other assistants help physiotherapists, chiropractors, and occupational therapists. They prepare and maintain equipment and supplies, and provide assistance to patients as directed. Optical and ophthalmic technicians and assistants grind and prepare lenses for eyeglasses, make minor repairs for customers, and maintain optical laboratory equipment. Blood donor clinic assistants set up equipment and collection areas, record information on the donors and monitor them throughout the donation and post-donation process, and label and process donated blood. Morgue attendants assist pathologists at autopsies.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient and accurate, yet sensitive to the needs of clients. Hand-eye coordination and an aptitude for detailed and precise work are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Orthopaedic technologists require completion of high school and several months of on-the-job training. Registration with the Canadian Society of Orthopaedic Technologists is available and may be required by employers.
- Pharmacy assistants require completion of high school and several months of on-the-job training, or a certificate program in pharmaceutical services.
- There are no formal educational requirements for most of the other occupations, although programs may be available that would help you gain employment.

### Employment Outlook

Employment growth in these occupations is expected due to the increasing healthcare needs of Nova Scotia's aging population. The growth of in-home care and continuing care services will also positively influence demand for these occupations. The demand for pharmacy assistants is expected to increase with the growth of pharmacy outlets in department and grocery stores and with the introduction of online pharmacies.

The number of job openings due to attrition expected in these occupations in the coming years is relatively large. Part-time employment and self-employment are relatively common in these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Pharmacy Assistant  
Orthopedic Technologist  
Blood Donor Clinic Assistant  
Pharmacy Technician  
Morgue Attendant

### Related Occupations

Licensed Practical Nurse  
Medical Laboratory Technologists

# Physiotherapists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**510**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**20**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$23.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Physiotherapists plan and carry out individually designed programs of physical treatment to help patients move more easily and with less pain. They assess patients' physical abilities and dysfunctions to see what they are able to do and identify where they have problems, and then plan programs that might include therapeutic exercise, electrotherapy, acupuncture, massage, and/or hydrotherapy. Physiotherapists also maintain clinical and statistical records and develop health promotion programs.

They may focus their practice on neurology, pediatrics, orthopedics, geriatrics, or the treatment of patients with cardiovascular disorders, burns, or sports injuries.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in health and in caring for the special needs of people. Ingenuity, initiative, and imagination are needed to adapt activities to individual needs. You should be patient, self-disciplined, and resourceful. The ability to inspire confidence and to motivate clients is important. A strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, and communication skills are also necessary. Physical stamina may be necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in physiotherapy and a period of supervised practical training are required. A master's degree may be preferred.
- Physiotherapists must be licensed by the Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists and are required to pass the National Physiotherapy Competence Examination administered by the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators.
- Membership in the Canadian Physiotherapy Association is not mandatory but may increase your chances of finding a job.

### Other Considerations

A growing number of people in this occupation are self-employed.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation will increase due to service delivery shifts to the community level; our aging population; the trend towards more health prevention and promotion; and heightened consumer expectations. Also, many occupations have moved from manual to seated labour, which will increase the need to treat and prevent the harmful side effects of prolonged computer work.

An increasing number of physiotherapists across Canada are moving into employment in the private sector; almost half (45 percent) of all physiotherapists in Nova Scotia work in the private sector. This is due to increased private insurance coverage for physiotherapy services. Another trend is the professionalization of the occupation. By 2010, Canadian universities will offer entry-level education programs in physiotherapy only at the master's level. However, this will not impact the number of graduates in Nova Scotia. Overall, it is anticipated that there will continue to be a strong demand for physiotherapy services.

### Typical Jobs

Physical Therapist  
Physiotherapist  
Research Physiotherapist  
Registered Physiotherapist

### Related Occupations

Massage Therapists and Non-Medical  
Health Technicians

# Practitioners in Natural Healing

**Labour  
Market  
Information**

**Outlook  
FAIR**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**60**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Practitioners of natural healing provide alternative forms of healthcare to patients.

For example, acupuncturists diagnose diseases, injuries, and disorders, and provide treatment through the insertion of needles or through laser or electric stimulation. Homeopaths diagnose illnesses and treat them by using homeopathic remedies and recommending lifestyle changes. Midwives provide care and advice to women during pregnancy, labour, and the post-natal period. Reflexologists apply pressure to reflex points on the feet, hands, and ears to promote relaxation, improve circulation, and promote healing. Shiatsu therapists practice a gentle massage using acupuncture points for the same purpose.

## Skills

Compassion, sensitivity, and a desire to help people are important. Maturity and good judgement are essential. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are important. You should be able to inspire confidence and put people at ease, be observant, and notice a client's symptoms and response to treatment. It is important to understand and practise professional ethics.

## Employment Requirements

- Acupuncturists require completion of a training program in acupuncture and may also require some university courses in science or training in a related healthcare discipline. Acupuncturists in Alberta, Quebec or British Columbia require certification by a provincial regulatory body in order to practise.
- Currently, midwives may only practise in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta. Training may be acquired through a university degree in midwifery or an acceptable equivalent, and a period of supervised practical training.
- Homeopaths, reflexologists, and shiatsu therapists must complete an appropriate training program, as well as a period of supervised practical training. These professions are self-regulated, so there are no certification requirements to practise. It is advised that you contact the appropriate professional association for recommendations on a training program.

## Other Considerations

Most people in these occupations are self-employed.

## Employment Outlook

Demand for practitioners of natural healing is affected by the growing interest in natural alternatives to traditional western medical practice. People are more willing to try combinations of conventional medicine and alternative methods to achieve both physical and mental health. The increasing healthcare needs of Nova Scotia's aging population will also spur demand for practitioners of natural healing.

In many provinces across Canada, midwifery is becoming a regulated profession; Nova Scotia is currently reviewing recommendations set forth by a primary-care working group that may pursue formal action to adopt a regulatory or licensing structure for midwifery. The incorporation of midwifery into our publicly funded healthcare system (as in British Columbia and Ontario) would greatly increase demand for this occupation.

An overall trend towards the establishment of regulatory bodies and licensing procedures for practitioners in natural healing will increase the accessibility of these services in hospitals and clinics. This trend can be seen in the United States, where acupuncture has the highest rate of conventional physician referral for this category of occupations.

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia and so, despite anticipated job growth for alternative medical services, the number of openings for each of the sub-groups will remain small because of the size of the sub-groups. The majority of practitioners in this occupational group are self-employed, and business management skills would be an asset for this profession.

## Typical Jobs

Reflexologist  
Midwife  
Shiatsu Therapist  
Homeopath  
Acupuncturist

## Related Occupations

Massage Therapists and Non-Medical Health Technicians

# Recreational Therapists and Other Specialized Therapists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**110**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Art therapists, music therapists, and recreational therapists are part of a group of specialized therapists who use techniques such as art, athletics, dance, drama, music, gymnastics, movement, or recreation to aid in the treatment of mental and physical disabilities and illnesses.

They assess patients' current and potential functioning levels and prepare treatment plans. Patients must be observed and analyzed as the treatment sessions are being implemented. They may also develop therapy programs for the general patient population or in the community.

### Skills

To work in recreational therapy, you must have a genuine and sensitive interest in people and their ability to achieve. You must be able to communicate effectively with people and demonstrate a strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, patience, and self-discipline. Therapists must be creative and unique in their approach to each client. The ability to inspire confidence and to motivate clients is important. A strong sense of responsibility, good judgement, and communication skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Supervised practical training is usually required for these occupations.
- Art therapists require undergraduate courses in psychology and a graduate-level diploma or master's degree in art therapy.
- Music therapists usually require training or technical ability in music and a bachelor's degree in music therapy.
- Athletic therapists usually require a bachelor's degree in physical recreation or a related area with a specialization in sports medicine, or a college program in sports injury management.
- Recreational therapists usually require a bachelor's degree or college program in recreation with specialization in therapeutic recreation. Many employers look for CTRS (Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist) certification.
- Dance therapists require a bachelor's degree in psychology or either an undergraduate or graduate degree in dance/movement therapy.
- Remedial gymnasts require completion of an approved college program in remedial gymnastics.
- Certification or membership with the appropriate professional association may be required.

### Other Considerations

Those not employed with public institutions or agencies are often self-employed in a private or group practice.

There is a distinct training path for each of these occupations and no movement between these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

Employment growth for this occupation is generally influenced by funding for healthcare services. Job opportunities are expected to increase in long-term care facilities, seniors' residences, and community-based rehabilitation centres as our population ages. In the case of physical therapists, the number of individuals with disabilities or limited function should spur demand for therapeutic services and rehabilitative care.

The average age of these professionals is 32 years, and retirements will not contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Movement Therapist  
Dance Therapist  
Remedial Gymnast  
Music Therapist  
Art Therapist  
Athletic Therapist

### Related Occupations

Physiotherapists  
Occupational Therapists  
Recreation and Sports Program Officers and Consultants  
Massage Therapists and Non-Medical Health Technicians



# Registered Nurses

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**8860**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**500**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$26.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Nurses provide professional services to patients to maintain and restore health, and assist in the management of illness or injury. The provision of nursing services involves a variety of roles for nurses, including direct care provider, health teacher, consultant, administrator, and researcher.

Registered nurses may specialize in nursing practice areas such as the operating room; obstetrics (new mothers); mental health; emergency or critical care; pediatrics (children); geriatrics (elderly); community, public, and occupational health; rehabilitation; or oncology (cancer).

Nurses also work in teaching, research, and management. Nurses in managerial positions coordinate the activities of other registered nurses and nursing support personnel to guarantee safe and effective patient care.

### Skills

To practise nursing, you should have a desire to respond to the emotional, physical, and social needs of people. You should also have skills and aptitudes in the following areas: interpersonal relationships; communication; emotional stability; critical thinking; good judgement; and creativity. Good health and physical stamina may also be required.

### Employment Requirements

- Nurses in Nova Scotia are required to be licensed with the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia. The minimum requirement for licensing is a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a pass mark on the Licensure Exam.
- Additional educational preparation or degrees are required for positions in management, teaching, research, or advanced nursing practice.
- Persons who have been convicted of an indictable offense under the Criminal Code (Canada), the Food and Drug Act (Canada), the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada), or any other similar legislation in any province or country and who have not received a pardon may not be eligible for licensing.

### Employment Outlook

It is anticipated that job openings will result from employment growth, the need to replace nurses who are retiring or leaving the profession to take other jobs, and an increase in healthcare consumption due to aging population demographics. Demand for registered nurses' services will continue to shift towards community-based settings, particularly in the area of primary care. Other trends will see registered nurses acting in more prominent leadership roles in nursing homes, working in mental health services, and dealing with public health concerns; these expanded roles may require more education. Finally, due to Nova Scotia's aging population, there may be more demand placed on in-home care. Overall, this is an expanding field and there are many employment opportunities anticipated in the coming years.

For head nurses and supervisors, the rate of attrition is expected to be above average and it is anticipated that there will be a number of job openings due to retirement. Currently, 15 percent of head nurses and supervisors in Nova Scotia are between 55 and 59 years of age.

Because head nurses and nurse supervisors direct nursing activities, primarily in hospitals, demand for this occupation is linked to the demand for registered nurses. As our baby boomer population ages in Nova Scotia, an increased demand will be placed on healthcare services in general. The government of Nova Scotia in conjunction with the federal health accord has anticipated this demand and is increasing funding to healthcare facilities. This growth will increase employment opportunities for head nurses and supervisors.

In the next 5 years, demand for nurses is expected to outstrip supply. Reflecting this, the government of Nova Scotia is increasing the number of nurse training seats at Acadia University by 25, providing educational bursaries for nursing students, and offering recruitment incentives for nurses to practise in rural areas.

### Typical Jobs

Community Health Nurse  
Clinical Nurse Specialist  
Hospital Staff Nurse  
Nurse Researcher  
Nursing Supervisor  
Patient Care Co-ordinator

### Related Occupations

Licensed Practical Nurses

# Respiratory Therapists and Clinical Perfusionists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**230**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Respiratory therapists perform diagnostic tests on patients with respiratory and cardiopulmonary disorders, operate and monitor respiratory equipment, and may participate in research related to those disorders.

Clinical perfusionists provide technical support to cardiac surgeons and anaesthetists during open-heart surgery.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be interested in medicine and health. Manual dexterity and good coordination are necessary. You must be able to deal with people in a mature, tactful, and professional way. You should also be comfortable working with instruments, apparatus, and technology. A background in science would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Respiratory therapists have the option of completing a three-year diploma program or a four-year university program in respiratory therapy, including clinical training. Membership in the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) is required to practise.
- Clinical perfusionists are required to complete a respiratory therapy or registered nursing program, with a minimum of one year of work experience as a respiratory therapist or registered nurse, and complete a one-year program in Clinical Perfusion, including clinical training.

### Other Considerations

Although the majority of people in these occupations are employed full-time, part-time and casual work arrangements are common.

### Employment Outlook

Employment in this occupation in Nova Scotia will grow because of increases in cardiopulmonary diseases due to an aging population, advances in treatment, and increases in government funding for the hospital sector. Other factors influencing demand for this occupation will be increases in asthma and demand for ambulatory and home-care services.

Expanding roles for therapists in such areas as anesthesia assistants, cardiopulmonary perfusion, education, and research are attracting therapists away from acute-care settings and placing a strain on resources in hospital settings. Overall, the employment outlook for respiratory therapists and clinical perfusionists is good over the forecast period.

### Typical Jobs

Clinical Perfusionist  
Respiratory Therapist

### Related Occupations

Massage Therapists and Non-Medical  
Health Technicians  
Cardiology Technologists

# Specialist Physicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
950

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
31

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$79.50 HOUR

## Nature of the Work

Specialists have an in-depth knowledge and highly specialized skills in a specific medical field. There are many specialties, which can be broadly grouped into clinical medicine, laboratory medicine, and surgery.

Examples of specialists in clinical medicine include anesthesiologists, who administer anesthetics and control pain during surgery; gynecologists, who study and treat disorders of the female reproductive system; internists, who specialize in disorders of organs such as heart, lungs, kidneys, and stomach; pediatricians, who care for infants and children; psychiatrists, who specialize in disorders of the mind; and oncologists, who treat cancer. These individuals diagnose and treat the diseases, physiological and psychological disorders, and injuries of patients. This may include examining patients; ordering laboratory tests, x-rays and other diagnostic procedures; prescribing and administering medications and treatments; performing surgical procedures; acting as a consultant to other physicians; conducting medical research; teaching; and performing related tasks. Specialists in laboratory medicine study the nature, cause, development, and effect of diseases in humans. They supervise laboratory activities and may act as consultants to other physicians. Pathologists and medical biochemists fall into this category. Specialists in surgery, of course, supervise and perform surgery. They must assess their patients to determine the appropriate procedures and also act as consultants to other physicians. This group includes general surgeons and specialized surgeons such as cardiac surgeons and orthopedic surgeons.

## Skills

Compassion, sensitivity, and a desire to help people are important. Physicians must take final responsibility for their decisions and the effects they have on patients' lives. Therefore, emotional stability, ethics, maturity, and good judgement are essential. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are important. You should be able to inspire confidence and put people at ease. You must be willing to continually update your knowledge and skills. Good health and stamina may be needed, as physicians often work long hours.

## Employment Requirements

- People in this profession must complete an accredited medical program at an approved medical school granting a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree, complete residency training in their area of practice, and have a licence to practise medicine. This is granted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia.
- To specialize in clinical medicine you will require an additional four to five years of specialty residency training. Two years of subspecialty training may also be required.
- To specialize in laboratory medicine, four to five years of specialty residency training is required.
- To specialize in surgery, five to six years of specialty residency training is required and an additional two years of subspecialty training may also be required.

## Other Considerations

Most physicians are self-employed and administer their services through private practices. Most physicians are paid by fee-for-service, so earnings depend upon the fees paid by the government for various services and the number of patients served. Some physicians are paid through alternative funding plans.

## Employment Outlook

Demand for specialist physicians will be increasing because our aging population will require more health care; technology advances have created a need for specialized physicians; and healthcare insurance increasingly covers a wider range of treatments and procedures. The number of recent graduates and immigrants will likely not keep pace with the number of job openings due to retirements and attrition, despite increasing medical school enrolments.

Because of our aging population, geriatric and orthopedic specialists will be in great demand. Other specialty areas experiencing shortages are anesthesia, psychiatry, radiology, obstetrics, and radiation oncology. There is currently a severe shortage of specialist physicians in rural areas. Similar demand for specialist physicians can be seen across Canada and recruitment, particularly to rural areas, will be a challenge. The majority of specialist physicians work in health care; however, some are also employed in administrative positions. Demand for physicians' services is highly sensitive to changes in consumer preferences, healthcare reimbursement policies, and legislation. Because physician training is so lengthy, employment change happens gradually. New physicians are less likely to enter solo practices and more likely to take salaried jobs in group medical practices, clinics, and health networks.

## Typical Jobs

Gynecologist  
Anesthetist  
Oncologist  
Pediatrician  
Psychiatrist  
Surgeon

## Related Occupations

Chiropractors  
Family Physicians

# Veterinarians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
180

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
8

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$34.50 HOUR

### Nature of the Work

Veterinarians care for pets, livestock, sporting animals, and laboratory animals, and protect humans against diseases carried by animals. They also diagnose, treat, control, and prevent animal disorders and disease.

Typically, veterinarians diagnose medical problems in their animal patients, perform surgery, and prescribe and administer treatments. The roles of a veterinarian also include advising clients on feeding, breeding, and care of animals, and managing animal hospitals. They may choose small-animal, large-animal, or mixed practice, or specialize in a particular species or medical field.

Small (companion) animal practices generally accept dogs and cats as patients and sometime treat exotic species, such as birds, small mammals, and reptiles. Services often include pet selection and care, nutrition and behaviour counselling, boarding, and grooming.

Large animal practices provide medical and surgical services for livestock and horses. In addition to treating patients, large animal veterinarians offer preventative herd health management and also monitor for possible disease outbreak.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have compassion, a fondness for animals, and an interest in science, especially biology, chemistry, and physics. Good health, stamina, and emotional stability are necessary, as veterinarians often work long and irregular hours. You must be patient, reliable, mature, and responsible. Good oral and written communication skills are also needed. Some business knowledge would be helpful in running a private practice.

### Employment Requirements

- Veterinarians must be licensed to practise in Nova Scotia. To be licensed, you must have a four-year degree in veterinary medicine from a recognized school. You must also write the National Examining Board exam and become a member of the Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association.

### Other Considerations

Although many veterinarians work regular hours, those in private practice often work long hours, including evenings, weekends and holidays.

### Employment Outlook

Employment in this occupation is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations. Larger livestock operations, the increased emphasis on scientific methods of breeding and animal management, and the importance of maintaining disease-free stock for export make the veterinary professional a key resource for livestock farming operations. New graduates who are willing to work in large-animal clinics in rural or isolated areas will have better employment prospects than those who wish to practice in urban areas specializing in care for domestic pets. The majority of veterinarians in Nova Scotia are between 35 and 44 years of age. Therefore, in the next few years there will be relatively few openings due to retirements. Some job creation may occur due to entrepreneurial veterinarians setting up their own practices.

### Typical Jobs

Small Animal Veterinarian  
Veterinarian  
Veterinary Pathologist  
Veterinary Physiologist  
Zoo Veterinarian  
Large Animal Veterinarian

### Related Occupations

Animal Health Technicians  
Biologists and Related Scientists  
Pet Groomers and Animal  
Care Workers





## Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations



## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**340**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**23**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$27.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Aerospace engineers, for example design, engineer, research, and develop aircraft and spacecraft, and perform duties related to the testing and evaluation of aerospace vehicles and systems.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need persistence and good judgement. The ability to think analytically and logically is important. You must be able to communicate and cooperate with others, as engineers often work in teams. Leadership and problem-solving skills are also necessary. Computer experience is an important asset.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Employment Outlook

In 2000, Canada had the fourth-largest aerospace industry in the world. The bulk of the industry is concentrated in Quebec and Ontario; however, the sector also contributes employment to Nova Scotia's economy. Nova Scotia's aviation industry focuses on military maritime aviation, composition fabrication, and electronic assemblies.

Aviation manufacturing is expected to grow in the coming years. In addition, due to an expanding, more complex fleet, aging aircraft, and mounting regulations, aviation maintenance activity is expected to grow strongly. Due to growth projections for the industry and its aging workforce, employment prospects are rated as good over the forecast period.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Design Engineer  
Aerodynamics Engineer  
Aerospace Engineer  
Aeronautical Engineer

### Related Occupations

Mechanical Engineer  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Electrical and Electronics Engineers  
Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors

# Agricultural and Fish Products Inspectors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**180**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Agricultural and fish products inspectors ensure that production, storage, and transportation standards are maintained. Inspectors may specialize in fish and fish products, fruits and vegetables, grain, meat, or seeds and plant products.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy technical work and have an interest in science. A high degree of manual dexterity and mechanical ability may be necessary. You must be precise and analytical, and able to work alone or as part of a team. Good oral and written communication skills are important. Familiarity with computers is also required for some positions. Physical stamina may be needed for fieldwork.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree or college diploma in agriculture, biology, chemistry, or food processing technology would be required to work as an agricultural and fish products inspector. In addition, several years of work experience in agricultural production or fish processing are usually required.
- On-the-job training courses are required.

### Other Considerations

Resource conservation and environmental concerns may help to generate job opportunities for people in these occupations. People in these occupations usually work regular hours; however, irregular hours may be required to follow through on an experiment or fieldwork.

### Employment Outlook

Agricultural and fish products inspectors are primarily employed by government departments and agencies; some are employed by food processing companies in the private sector. The average age of this occupational group is approximately 37, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

This occupational group is employed across Nova Scotia, with the majority of opportunities occurring on the South Shore. The growth of aquaculture farming in Nova Scotia could create more job openings for this occupation in the future.

### Typical Jobs

Dairy Products Inspector  
Livestock Inspector  
Poultry Inspector  
Plant Protection Inspector  
Fish and Fish Products Inspector

### Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers  
Biological Technicians and Technologists  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists  
Machine Operators in Food and Beverage Processing

# Air Pilots, Flight Engineers, and Flying Instructors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
700

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
34

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$51.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Pilots fly fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters to provide air transportation of passengers and cargo, as well as other services. For example, they direct activities of aircraft crew during flight, and test new aircraft to evaluate performance.

Flight engineers monitor the functioning of aircraft during flight and may help in flying aircraft, while flying instructors teach flying techniques to students and licensed pilots.

People in these occupations usually work irregular hours including evenings, weekends, and holidays.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should have self-confidence and a strong sense of responsibility, and be a disciplined person able to work as part of the team on board the aircraft. Leadership qualities, initiative, and good communication skills are essential. You must be alert, quick-thinking, and able to perform under stress. Excellent coordination, agility, and physical and mental health are necessary. A mechanical aptitude is also important.

### Employment Requirements

- In order to fly for hire or reward, a pilot must hold either a Commercial Pilot Licence or an Airline Transport Pilot Licence, and be 18 or 21 years of age respectively. Commercially employed pilots must qualify for a Category I aviation medical certification with the completion of annual or semi-annual examinations, depending on age. Vision must be correctable to 20/20.
- A fixed-wing Commercial Pilot Licence is attained by completing the ground and flight training courses, written exams, and a flight test, and accumulating a total of 200 hours of flight time. A night rating is an integral part of the fixed-wing commercial license. Employment opportunities are improved for fixed-wing pilots who hold a multi-engine and instrument rating in addition to the commercial licence.
- The rotary-wing (helicopter) Commercial Pilot Licence requires that you complete 100 hours of flight time.
- Most airline companies require an aircraft captain to hold an Airline Transport Pilot Licence, which requires a minimum of 1500 hours flight time and completion of the required written exams and flight test. Additional ratings may be added to both fixed-wing and rotary-wing licences in order to satisfy specific employment requirements; these include aircraft type ratings such as Dash 8, Airbus 320, Bell 212, instructor ratings, and seaplane rating. Commercially employed pilots must also obtain training and pass aircraft proficiency flight tests on a regular basis. These sessions may be done in an aircraft simulator or in an actual aircraft.

### Other Considerations

Helicopter operators are primarily restricted to the summer months. Employment levels are influenced by the amount of tourism activity and business travel, which both tend to vary with general economic conditions. Earnings will depend on the specific occupation, qualifications, and employer. Pilots who fly large jet aircraft generally earn the highest incomes, while those flying small aircraft on short domestic routes earn the least.

### Employment Outlook

Employment opportunities for this occupational group are concentrated in the Halifax area. Demand for these occupations should be stimulated by airline restructuring and by passengers' renewed confidence in travel. There is growth in the discount airline industry. Many pilots begin their careers with small companies to gain flying time, often in remote areas. Due to Canada's licensing standards, air pilots can often work in many different countries.

Technological progress has almost entirely eliminated the need for on-flight engineers because many of these duties are now being handled by computer systems.

### Typical Jobs

Military Pilot  
Pilot Instructor  
Airline Pilot  
Helicopter Pilot  
Flight Engineer

### Related Occupations

Air Traffic Control Occupations

# Air Traffic Control Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
40

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
3

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$33.50 HOURLY

## Nature of the Work

An air traffic controller is often described as one who provides for the safe and orderly flow of air traffic both in the air and on the ground (airport).

Air traffic controllers at area control centres (ACC's) give pilots instructions, air traffic control clearances, and advice regarding flight conditions during the en route portion of their flight. Terminal controllers work in an environment similar to that of en route controllers, but are closely associated with the tower they serve. Airport controllers direct airport traffic so it flows smoothly and efficiently. They give pilots taxi and takeoff instructions, air traffic clearances, and advice based on their own observations and information received from Environment Canada, en route centres, flight services stations, pilots, and other sources.

A flight service specialist assists pilots both before and during flight. In addition to providing information to assist pilots to execute safe and expeditious departures and arrivals at uncontrolled airports, the flight service specialist supports pilots throughout the flight by providing pre-flight weather briefings, flight planning, an en route flight service, and search and rescue assistance. This rewarding job requires good judgement, constant vigilance, and the ability to communicate effectively.

A flight dispatcher may analyze environmental conditions and assess aircraft for load and fuel capacity and other factors to determine flight routes, brief flight crew on conditions, authorize or cancel flights, and monitor progress and communicate as required during flight.

## Skills

For these occupations, you need good health and eyesight. The candidates who succeed in training are self-confident and mature team players who are highly motivated, decisive, and self-disciplined.

## Employment Requirements

- An applicant must have successfully completed high school or equivalent and must be at least 18 years of age.
- All air traffic controller and flight service specialist operational positions have an English-essential requirement. Some flight service specialist positions in the Atlantic Region, some air traffic controller positions in the Ontario Region, and all positions in the Quebec Region are bilingual.

## Employment Outlook

Air traffic control occupations provide a comprehensive range of services such as air traffic control, flight and aeronautical information, weather briefings, airport advisory services, and electronic aids to navigation. Government has contracted the responsibility for these services to NAV Canada and there has been some centralization of operations. This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Early retirement in this occupation is common.

## Typical Jobs

Flight Dispatcher  
Flight Service Specialist  
Air Traffic Controller (Airport)  
Air Traffic Controller  
(En Route/Terminal)

## Related Occupations

Railway and Marine Traffic Controllers



# Architects

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
220

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
8

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$23.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Architects plan and develop designs for construction and renovation of commercial, institutional, and residential buildings.

They must consult with clients to determine type, style, and purpose of renovations or new buildings being considered; prepare sketches and models to communicate design intent, and prepare detailed construction documents including drawing and specifications. Architects also conduct environmental design studies, including environmental assessments; arrange contracts; and supervise construction.

### Skills

The duties of an architect require a number of skills: design, technological, managerial, communication, and supervisory. Architectural studies require an understanding of individual and social needs, and knowledge of humanities, fine arts, and technology. Well-rounded personal and academic experience is helpful, as well as experience in drawing, craft, and computer applications. Architecture students often benefit from previous classes in fields such as anthropology, art history, engineering, literature, mathematics, philosophy, and physics.

### Employment Requirements

- An architect must have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited school of architecture. A master's degree in architecture may be required.
- Another way to train for this profession requires that you work with architects for a period of eight to ten years and complete fifteen to thirty hours of study weekly through correspondence courses offered through the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC). This is not the usual way to prepare for this work in Nova Scotia; however, it is done in areas where access to architectural schools is limited.
- To practise as a professional architect in Nova Scotia, you must be registered with the Nova Scotia Association of Architects. Student memberships in the Nova Scotia Association of Architects are available. Direct experience must be gained under the supervision of a professional architect. During this time you must prepare diaries or a record of experiences that will be assessed by the Association, and eventually you must pass the Architectural Registration Exam.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for architects is linked to growth in the construction industry, especially commercial and industrial projects. Over the next few years, some slowing in construction activity will limit employment growth for this occupation. Construction is sensitive to cyclical changes in the economy, and architectural firms face strong competition for jobs during recessions. The average age of this occupation is approximately 46 years, and retirements can be expected to contribute to job openings.

Professional architects may participate in a wide range of design activities, such as furnishings and house designs, spatial organization and urban design, historic restoration, and adaptation to new buildings. The market is expected to change somewhat in the coming years, and architects will need to respond to the needs of persons with disabilities and the elderly, and the demands of an increasingly environmentally conscious clientele.

Computer-aided design is becoming prevalent in this occupation, and those familiar with CAD technology will have better employment prospects. Most architects are self-employed or work for small firms.

### Typical Jobs

Architect

### Related Occupations

Civil Engineers  
Biomedical, Marine and  
Other Engineers

# Architectural Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
80

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
3

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Architectural or building technologists and technicians provide technical assistance to professional architects and civil design engineers. They may be the lead supervisors on major construction projects.

They conduct research, prepare drawings and architectural models, prepare contract and bidding documents, and coordinate work done by others.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should be interested in architecture and design and also have an interest in construction and the various building trades. Grade 12 math and physics are recommended. You should enjoy detailed and precise work. A good imagination and creativity would be helpful. Good communication skills, both written and oral, are important. Computer skills would also be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- For this type of work, you generally need an architectural technician or technology diploma from a recognized school.
- Certification is not mandatory at this time but more employers are requiring it. Two years of work experience may be required before you are eligible for certification.

### Other Considerations

Although there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment throughout the year, employment levels may vary from year to year as economic conditions change and the amount of construction activity is affected.

### Employment Outlook

Architectural technologists and technicians are employed by architectural and construction firms and by governments. Employment growth is linked to the construction industry. Although residential construction is expected to decline in the coming years, there will be growth in large-scale construction projects in Nova Scotia.

The average age for this occupation is approximately 35 years, which is below the average age for all occupations, and retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings. The average hourly income for architectural technologists and technicians is somewhat higher than that of related occupations.

Knowledge of computer-aided drafting skills and experience with geographic information systems are assets for this occupation. Employment opportunities are best in the Halifax area.

### Typical Jobs

Architectural Design Technician  
Architectural Design Technologists  
Building Technician  
Building Technologist

### Related Occupations

Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Mapping and Related Technicians  
and Technologists

# Biological Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**420**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Biological technologists and technicians support scientists, engineers, or others working in the fields of agriculture, microbiology, molecular biology, or related areas. For example, biological technologists conduct tests and laboratory analysis in support of quality control in food production, sanitation, pharmaceutical production, and other fields. They also perform experiments in agriculture, animal and plant breeding, biology, and biomedical research.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy technical work and have an interest in science. A high degree of manual dexterity and mechanical ability may be necessary. You must be precise and analytical, and able to work alone or as part of a team. Good oral and written communication skills are important. Familiarity with computers is also required for some positions. Physical stamina may be needed for fieldwork.

### Employment Requirements

- To work as a biological technologist, you require a two- to three-year college program or bachelor's degree in agriculture, biology, microbiology, wildlife, or resource management.
- To work as a biological technician, you must complete a one- to two-year college program in a field related to biology.

### Other Considerations

Resource conservation and environmental concerns may help to generate job opportunities for people in these occupations. People in these occupations usually work regular hours; however, irregular hours may be required to follow through on an experiment or fieldwork.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of this occupational group is tied to research and development funding from the public and private sectors. As with many other areas, growth in the number of publicly funded positions will continue to be limited by spending restraints. Computer-based competencies, such as bioinformatics and molecular modeling, are becoming an important part of this occupation as traditional and information sciences become integrated. Ongoing training is important for this occupation to keep up with information and technology changes. Some emerging fields for biological technicians and technologists are molecular medicine, gene therapy, signal transduction, and genomics. This is a relatively young work force with an average age of 37. Opportunities for this occupation are best in the Halifax area.

### Typical Jobs

Agricultural Technician  
Fish Hatchery Technician  
Aquaculture Technician  
Wildlife Biology Technician  
Forensic Laboratory Technologist

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Biologists and Related Scientists  
Medical Laboratory Technologists  
Medical Laboratory Technicians  
Conservation and Fishery Officers  
Agricultural and Fish Products Inspectors  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists

# Biologists and Related Scientists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**500**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**14**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Biologists conduct basic and applied research to increase our understanding of living organisms, to manage natural resources, and to develop new practices related to medicine and agriculture.

Biochemists study the chemical composition of living things.

Molecular biologists study life at the molecular level, which is the foundation for biotechnology.

Botanists study plants and their environment. Zoologists study animals: their origin, behaviour, diseases, and life processes.

Marine biologists study plants and animals living in water; specifically saltwater organisms.

Ecologists study the relationships among organisms and between organisms and their environments, and the effects of influences such as population size, pollutants, rainfall, temperature, and altitude.

People in these occupations generally work regular hours in offices and laboratories, although some conduct fieldwork and on-site studies.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be comfortable working with instruments, apparatus, and chemicals. You should be observant of details, enjoy research, and have good judgement for scientific and administrative decision-making. The ability to communicate and cooperate with others is important, as scientists often work in teams. Basic computer and mathematical skills are necessary. You must have physical stamina to do field research in remote areas.

### Employment Requirements

- A minimum of a master's degree in biology or a related field is generally required for these positions. To apply for a master's degree program, you will usually require successful completion of a four-year honours bachelor's degree program or an acceptable equivalent.
- A Ph.D. is generally required for biological scientists to teach at colleges or universities or to conduct independent research. Admission to a Ph.D. program usually requires an honours bachelor's degree with a minimum A- standing and completion of a two-year master's degree with high academic standing. Applicants must have demonstrated an ability to perform advanced research.

### Other Considerations

Diversification of the Nova Scotian economy may provide some job opportunities for biologists with skills appropriate for use in the pharmaceutical and health sciences industries.

### Employment Outlook

The average age of biologists in Nova Scotia is 40. Persons in this occupational group are employed in laboratory and field settings by governments, environmental consulting companies, resource and utilities companies, chemical, pharmaceutical and biotechnical companies, and health and educational institutions.

For persons with only a bachelor's degree, employment opportunities may be limited. There are some employment opportunities as research assistants, usually through professors in specific departments who have received research grants. There are some areas of growth for this occupational group, for example in the field of biotechnology. However, these are very specialized jobs and a Ph.D. is often required.

### Typical Jobs

Botanist  
Geneticist  
Ecologist  
Molecular Biologist  
Marine Biologist

### Related Occupations

Farm Management Specialists  
and Agricultural Consultants  
Foresters

# Biomedical, Marine, and Other Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
360

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
8

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$24.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

In general, these occupations are involved with the design and coordination of projects related to practical applications of engineering.

Agricultural and bio-resource engineers design and develop machinery, structures, equipment and systems related to agriculture and food processing.

Biomedical engineers design and develop medical diagnostic and clinical instrumentation, equipment and procedures. They may also develop devices to assist persons with disabilities or advise hospital administrators on medical equipment. If necessary, they will recommend modifications and install or supervise installation of the equipment.

Engineering physicists and engineering scientists conduct research and develop processes, programs and equipment to expand fundamental knowledge in the applied sciences and engineering and to support the practical application of this knowledge.

Marine and naval engineers design and develop ships, barges, tugs, dredges, submarines, floats, buoys. They also design the associated marine power plants and propulsion systems and oversee the building, maintenance and repair of vessels and marine systems.

Textile engineers design and develop processes, equipment and procedures for the production of fibres, yarns and textiles.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need persistence and good judgement. The ability to think analytically and logically is important. You must be able to communicate and cooperate with others, as engineers often work in teams. Leadership and problem-solving skills are also necessary. Computer experience is an important asset.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Employment Outlook

Marine engineers are responsible for selecting ships' machinery, and for the design of mechanical, electrical, fluid, and control systems throughout the vessel. Some marine engineers serve aboard ships to operate and maintain these systems. Halifax is a busy port and planned redevelopments to deepen the port may spur job growth in the coming years.

Canada's aging population and a focus on health issues will increase the demand for better medical devices and equipment designed by biomedical engineers. For example, computer-assisted surgery and molecular, cellular, and tissue engineering are being more heavily researched and are developing rapidly. In addition, rehabilitation and orthopaedic engineering specialties are growing quickly, increasing the need for biomedical engineers. An increased concern for cost-efficiency and cost-effectiveness will also create demand for biomedical engineers.

Overall, employment prospects for these occupations are expected to be good over the forecast period.

### Typical Jobs

Agricultural Engineer  
Bio-resource Engineer  
Naval Engineer  
Textile Engineer  
Marine Architect

### Related Occupations

Mechanical Engineers  
Physicists and Astronomers  
Farm Management Specialists  
and Agricultural Consultants  
Biologists and Related Scientists  
Chemical Engineers  
Ship's Engineer Officers



# Chemical Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**140**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Chemical engineers apply the principles of chemistry and engineering to solve problems involving the production or use of chemicals.

For example, they research, design, and develop chemical processes, and supervise the operation of industrial, chemical, plastics, pharmaceutical, and food processing plants. They also perform duties related to chemical quality control and environmental protection. They may specialize in the products and processes of a particular industry, such as pulp and paper manufacturing, petroleum refining, and energy processing.

Whether involved in chemical process engineering design or chemical process plant operations, the chemical engineer is expected to protect the public and the environment by ensuring that the processes operate in a safe manner.

### Skills

You should be interested in the use and application of chemicals in process industries. Good observation skills and the ability to think analytically and logically are important. You should be patient and curious, and enjoy problem-solving and carrying out experiments. The ability to communicate and cooperate with others is necessary, as engineers often work in teams. Computer skills are also very helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional chemical engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Other Considerations

Workers should be prepared to keep up to date with changing technology. Some engineers work in an office most of the time, while others work in laboratories, industrial plants, or construction sites where they inspect, supervise, and solve on-site problems.

### Employment Outlook

Chemical engineers are typically employed in chemical, plastics and paper manufacturing, and employment growth is linked to these industries. There are some opportunities for chemical engineers in the environmental industry, and some jobs may be created through the cleanup of the Sydney Tar Ponds.

The average age of chemical engineers in Nova Scotia is 36 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Petrochemical Engineer  
Refinery Engineer  
Environmental Chemical Engineer  
Industrial Waste Treatment Engineer  
Biochemical Engineer

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists  
Chemists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**290**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**9**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Chemists conduct research to support industrial operations, product and process development, quality control, environmental control, medical diagnosis and treatment, biotechnology, and other applications. They may analyze, purify, and modify compounds and ensure quality control of materials and products. Other chemists investigate chemical aspects of medical treatments for diseases.

Improvements in instrumentation have made it possible to look at biological processes at the molecular level. This has opened the doors of physiology and medicine to techniques of chemistry such as nuclear magnetic resonance imaging.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be comfortable working with delicate instruments and apparatus. The ability to concentrate on detail and to work independently is essential. You should be persistent, curious, precise, and accurate in your work. Both oral and written communication skills are important. Computer experience would also be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- A minimum of a master's degree in chemistry, biochemistry or a related field is generally required for these positions. To apply for a master's degree program, you will usually require successful completion of a four-year honours bachelor's degree program or an acceptable equivalent.
- A Ph.D. is generally required for teaching at colleges or universities or conducting independent research. Admission to a Ph.D. program usually requires an honours bachelor's degree with a minimum A- standing and may also require completion of a two-year master's degree with high academic standing. Applicants must have demonstrated an ability to perform advanced research.

### Other Considerations

There are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment in these occupations. Continued diversification of the manufacturing sector in Nova Scotia may generate some job opportunities for workers with the appropriate skills.

### Employment Outlook

The fields of chemistry and biochemistry are evolving rapidly and work is increasingly being conducted in collaboration with specialists in other fields such as engineering.

The employment of chemists is closely related to investment in research and development. The federal and provincial governments recently announced a \$400-million cleanup of the Sydney Tar Ponds site. This may create some employment opportunities for chemists.

Chemists may be impacted by layoffs during periods of economic recession, particularly in the industrial chemicals industry. This industry provides many of the raw materials to the auto manufacturing and construction industries, both of which are vulnerable to temporary slowdowns and recessions.

The average age of this occupation is 36 years, and therefore retirements will not contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Food Chemist  
Industrial Chemist  
Biochemist  
Agricultural Chemist  
Oceanographic Chemist

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists  
Geologists and Oceanographers  
Biologists and Related Scientists  
Chemical Engineers

# Civil Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1000**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**40**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$28.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Civil engineers plan, design, and supervise the construction and maintenance of many kinds of projects: buildings, bridges, roads, railways, dams, tunnels, ports, and docks; water supply and sewage systems; and transportation.

Specializations include foundation analysis, building and structural inspection, surveying, and municipal planning. Civil engineers consult with clients and other members of engineering teams and conduct research to determine project requirements; develop construction specifications and procedures; evaluate and recommend appropriate building and construction materials; and conduct technical analysis of survey and field data and prepare reports. Some work in offices most of the time, while others work in laboratories, industrial plants, or construction sites where they inspect, supervise, and solve on-site problems.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be interested in planning and designing buildings, bridges, dams, roadways, and other infrastructure. Problem-solving and decision-making skills are essential. You should be persistent, curious, and able to think in an analytical and logical manner. The ability to communicate and cooperate with others is important, as engineers often work in teams. Computer skills are also needed.

## Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

## Other Considerations

Many civil engineering jobs depend upon government-funded infrastructure projects, which often vary from year to year in number and size.

## Employment Outlook

Technology is rapidly changing for engineers and it is important that they stay abreast of new developments in the field. The environment is a promising sector for civil engineers as environmental concerns are a growing public priority. Engineering is also a profession where there is growth in opportunities for consulting internationally.

This is a large occupational group with an aging workforce; the average age of civil engineers in Nova Scotia is 42 years. This factor will ensure a number of job openings in the next few years due to retirement.

## Typical Jobs

Construction Engineer  
Hydro Technical Engineer  
Environmental Engineer  
Municipal Engineer  
Transportation Engineer

## Related Occupations

Professional Land Surveyors  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists

# Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1240**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**46**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Technicians and technologists in civil, mechanical, and industrial engineering provide technical support and services related to their respective fields. There are a number of specialized occupations in this group.

For example, mechanical engineering technologists and technicians help engineers to design and develop machinery and robotics by making sketches and rough layouts. They also record data, compute and analyze results, and write reports. Some mechanical engineering technologists and technicians test and inspect machines and equipment in manufacturing departments, or work with engineers to eliminate production problems.

Civil engineering technologists and technicians help civil engineers plan and build highways, buildings, bridges, dams, and water treatment systems. Some also estimate construction costs and specify materials to be used. Quantity surveyors also analyze costs and prepare estimates on civil engineering, architectural, structural, electrical, and mechanical construction projects.

Industrial engineering technologists and technicians provide technical support services in the development of production methods, facilities, and systems, planning, estimating, measuring, and scheduling of work. Construction estimators prepare cost estimates on construction projects.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy technical work and mathematics, and have an interest in science. A high degree of manual dexterity and mechanical ability may be necessary. You must be precise, analytical, and able to work alone or as part of a team. Good oral and written communication skills are important. Familiarity with computers is also required. Physical stamina may be required for fieldwork.

### Employment Requirements

- For this type of work, you generally need an Engineering Technician or Technology diploma from a community college. Certification is not mandatory at this time but more employers are requiring it.
- Graduates of accredited engineering technology programs must complete two years of work experience to be registered as Certified Engineering Technologists and Technicians.
- To become a quantity surveyor, you must successfully complete high school and have a college diploma in construction technology or have completed the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors educational program.
- Construction estimators require a high school diploma and either a three-year college program in civil or construction engineering technology, or several years of experience as a qualified tradesperson in a construction trade.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of civil engineers is best in the Halifax area where there are large-scale construction projects. Experience using a computer-aided design (CAD) program is an asset in this profession.

Employment of industrial and mechanical engineers is linked to Nova Scotia's manufacturing sector; e.g. auto parts manufacturing. This industry is continuously undergoing modernization and it is important for industrial and mechanical engineers to keep up to date with new technologies and information.

Overall, steady growth is anticipated in the manufacturing and construction sectors in Nova Scotia, and this is expected to maintain employment growth for this occupational grouping.

### Typical Jobs

Construction Estimator  
Aeronautical Technologist  
Pulp and Paper Manufacturing Technologist  
Professional Quantity Surveyor  
CAD/CAM Programmer

### Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers  
Industrial Designers  
Survey Technicians and Technologists  
Architectural Technicians and Technologists  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Computer Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**150**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Computer engineers research, plan, design, develop, and test computers and related equipment. This may be in relation to communications, image and signal processing, robotics and artificial intelligence, or other areas. Activities of computer hardware engineers may include designing and coordinating the development of computers and related equipment; supervising the installation, modification, and testing of computers; and supervising technicians and technologists.

## Skills

You should enjoy problem-solving, be able to think analytically and logically, and be interested in technology and the development of computer systems and equipment. Strong math

skills and effective communication skills are both very important. Creativity would also be helpful.

## Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by

APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

## Other Considerations

Rapid changes in computer technology mean that people in this field should be prepared to keep abreast of new developments in computer hardware, software, and networking technologies.

## Employment Outlook

As computer networks grow more complex, there will be a continued demand for computer engineers to design, develop and implement technologically sophisticated

hardware. People within this occupation are usually employed by larger companies.

This is a relatively small occupational group, and some job opportunities will arise as computer engineers move into management positions, retire, or become consultants. More than half of the graduates in this field have left to work outside Nova Scotia.

## Typical Jobs

Microwave Systems Engineer  
Computer Engineer  
Computer Systems Engineer  
Computer Hardware Engineer

## Related Occupations

Advertising, Management, and Promotion Consultants  
Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists

# Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2110**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**46**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Computer programmers write or revise computer code for various types of software applications used in microcomputers and mainframes, for data processing, operating systems, and communications.

Interactive media developers write or revise computer code for Internet applications, computer-based training software, computer games, film, video, and other interactive media.

## Skills

Both computer programmers and interactive media developers should be innovative, methodical, and possess good communication skills. You should also be quick to learn and be prepared to work to keep on top of new developments. Numerical

ability is required to understand programming languages and to write, modify, integrate, and test software code. Accuracy and proofreading skills are required to detect, locate, and avoid errors in code.

## Employment Requirements

- Usually either a bachelor's degree in computer science or another discipline with a significant programming component or completion of a college program in computer science is required.
- Specialization in programming for engineering and scientific applications requires specific post-secondary study or experience.

## Other Considerations

Rapid changes in computer technology mean that people in this

field should be prepared to keep abreast of new developments in computer hardware, software, and interactive media. Progression to information systems analyst, software engineer, or web designer is possible with experience.

## Employment Outlook

Computer programmers and interactive media developers are employed in computer software development firms, information technology consulting firms, and information technology units throughout the private and public sectors. The anticipated expansion of the information technology industry in the coming years is expected to fuel employment growth for this occupation.

The average age of professionals in this occupational group is approximately 34 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

## Typical Jobs

Software Developer  
Web Programmer  
Multimedia Developer  
Computer Game Developer  
Programmer Analyst

## Related Occupations

Graphic Designers  
Information Systems Analysts and Consultants  
Database Analysts and Data Administrators  
Software Engineers  
Web Designers and Developers



# Computer Support Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
2050

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
37

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$22.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Computer and network operators establish, operate, maintain, and co-ordinate the use of computer networks, and the hardware, software, and related equipment. Web technicians set up and maintain web sites and web server hardware and software. They monitor the network to ensure that connections and performance are operating as required.

User support technicians provide first-line technical support to computers users who are having problems. They may work with users in person, or communicate electronically or over the phone. Systems testing technicians run tests to evaluate the performance of software applications and information and telecommunications systems.

### Skills

Most jobs in this category require an interest in assisting computer users along with an ability to work methodically and pay close attention to detail. Computer and network operators and web technicians require motor coordination and finger and manual dexterity to repair and install networking and web server equipment. The ability to discriminate colours may be required. You will also require an interest in learning to keep your skills current, the ability to troubleshoot and solve problems, and the communication skills required to work with computer users and other staff.

### Employment Requirements

- Computer and network operators and web technicians require completion of a college or other program in computer science, network administration, web technology, or a related field.
- User support and systems testing technicians require a college program in computer science, computer programming, or network administration. No matter which program you choose, courses in computer programming or network administration will likely be required.
- Some employers require the certification or training provided by software vendors.

### Employment Outlook

The prevalence of computer networks across almost all large and medium-sized workplaces creates ongoing demand for computer support technicians. Those familiar with the administration of database-driven websites and secure sites will be in particular demand.

This is a large and relatively young workforce. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings. Employment opportunities are concentrated in the Halifax area, which has approximately 76 percent of the information technology employment in Nova Scotia. Technology investments such as plans for wireless technology and Local Area Networks may increase employment opportunities for this occupational group across the province in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

LAN (Local Area Network)  
Administrator  
Web Technician  
Call Centre Agent - Technical Support  
Help Desk Technician  
Software Tester

### Related Occupations

Computer Engineers  
Computer Programmers and  
Interactive Media Developers  
Web Designers and Developers

# Conservation and Fishery Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**330**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Conservation and fishery officers enforce federal and provincial regulations developed to protect fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. They may collect data and samples, investigate complaints, and be involved in public awareness and education initiatives.

### Skills

Strong oral and written communication skills are needed to prepare briefs and present evidence in court and in speaking to the public. You need to be methodical in investigating complaints and compiling field and resource data. Explaining regulations and confronting or arresting violators requires confidence and the ability to be assertive. You may be required to provide or supervise safety training courses and must be able to operate vehicles such as trucks, aircraft, or boats.

### Employment Requirements

- Conservation and fishery officers are generally required to complete a recognized forestry or related technician diploma program and a conservation enforcement program recognized by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- On-the-job training and courses related to law enforcement and resource management are provided.
- A Class 5 driver's licence may be required. Some positions require other specialized licences such as firearms, pesticide application, or explosives.

### Other Considerations

Resource conservation and environmental concerns may help to generate job opportunities for people in these occupations. People in these occupations usually work regular hours; however, irregular hours may be required to follow through on an experiment or fieldwork.

### Employment Outlook

Conservation and fishery officers are employed by federal and provincial government departments to enforce regulations established for the protection of fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Self-employment is very rare.

Conservation and fishery officers work across Nova Scotia, and the majority are employed in the area of public administration. The average age of this occupation is approximately 40 years, which is somewhat higher than the average age for all occupations. Retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings. One trend that will impact this occupation is a strengthening and consolidation of environmental legislation and policies. This may broaden the roles and responsibilities of conservation and fishery officers in the future.

### Typical Jobs

Fishery Officer  
Forest Ranger - Wildlife Management  
Game Warden  
Conservation Officer

### Related Occupations

Biological Technicians  
and Technologists  
Agricultural and Fish  
Products Inspectors  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists

# Database Analysts and Data Administrators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**350**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Database analysts use database management software to respond to business data management issues. Data administrators develop and implement policies, standards, and models related to the administration of data.

### Skills

To work in one of these occupations, you should enjoy helping your clients develop and implement solutions to meet their needs. You must be detail-oriented, methodical and precise. Accuracy and good proofreading skills are required to detect, locate, and avoid errors in code. You will require the mathematical skills to develop data

models and prepare financial plans and reports. Communication skills are required to work effectively with other professionals and clients. Data administrators require good research skills and may be required to lead and coordinate teams. As software and data management techniques are constantly being updated, you should be prepared to update your knowledge and skills on a regular basis.

### Employment Requirements

- To work in this field, you will require either a bachelor's degree, usually in computer science, mathematics, commerce, or business administration, or a college diploma in computer science.

- Computer programming experience is usually required.

### Employment Outlook

As organizations find themselves inundated with a wealth of information, database analysts and database administrators have become key to managing this information. Data administrators develop and implement data administration policy, standards and models, and are employed in information technology consulting firms and in information technology units throughout the private and public sectors.

Employment prospects for this occupation are good in the coming years. Hands-on experience is important for this occupation

and internship experiences during educational attainment would improve employment prospects upon graduation.

### Typical Jobs

Data Administrator  
Database Analyst  
Database Architect  
Database Administrator

### Related Occupations

Managers in Banking, Communications and Other Business Services  
Information Systems Analysts and Consultants  
Software Engineers  
Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers

# Drafting Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**740**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**18**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Drafting technologists and technicians prepare engineering designs, drawings, and related technical information. They may work alone, as part of an engineering team, or in support of engineers, architects, or industrial designers.

Drafting technologists operate computer-aided design (CAD) and drafting stations; develop and prepare design sketches; and write technical reports. Drafting technicians develop and prepare engineering drawings, plans, diagrams, and layouts from sketches.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have talent in drawing and sketching. A neat and systematic approach to projects is important. You must be accurate, precise, and efficient. The ability to work under pressure and

meet deadlines may also be necessary. Computer skills are usually required.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a drafting and design technologist, it is recommended that you complete a two- to three-year college program in engineering design and drafting technology or in a related field.
- Drafting technicians, on the other hand, may be required to obtain a one- to two-year college program in drafting.
- In some cases, several years of relevant work experience plus some relevant college courses may replace formal academic requirements.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in these occupations tend to be seasonal, perhaps as a result of

increased construction and renovation activity in the summer months. Continued employment in these occupations will require constant learning to keep pace with the rapidly changing technology in this highly computerized field. Because the work is closely related to construction activity, employment levels are sensitive to changes in economic conditions.

### Employment Outlook

Drafting technologists and technicians are employed in a variety of sectors such as construction, utilities, and manufacturing. Public and private investment in major construction projects and infrastructure renewal should have a positive effect on this occupation over the next few years.

The growth of CAD technology has increased skill requirements for this occupation. Knowledge of drafting

and Internet software, as well as programming languages and network administration, will improve employment prospects for persons seeking employment in this field.

### Typical Jobs

Structural Draftsperson  
Technical Illustrator  
Mechanical Draftsperson  
Computer-aided Design (CAD) Technician  
Architectural Drafter

### Related Occupations

Industrial Designers  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Mapping and Related Technicians and Technologists  
Architectural Technicians and Technologists

# Electrical and Electronics Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**650**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**30**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$26.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

These engineers design, develop, and supervise the manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment. There are a number of choices for specialization. These include: electrical design for residential, commercial, or industrial installations; communications systems; and instrumentation and control systems.

They develop maintenance and operating standards for electrical and electronic equipment; design circuits, components, systems, and equipment; prepare estimates to complete required work; and write performance reports and design specifications. Some engineers work in an office most of the time, while others work in laboratories, industrial plants, or construction sites where they inspect, supervise, and solve on-site problems.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be interested in the design and operation of electrical systems and equipment. The ability to communicate and cooperate with others is important, as engineers often work in teams. You should enjoy problem-solving and be able to think analytically and logically. Computer skills would also be helpful.

## Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

## Other Considerations

The growing use of telecommunication, multi-media, and other electronic equipment in homes, businesses, and manufacturing facilities will help generate job opportunities for people with the appropriate electrical and electronics engineering skills. Therefore, it is important that workers keep up to date with changing technology.

## Employment Prospects

Employment prospects for this occupation are rated as good. Demand is strong, particularly in the Halifax area, because companies are increasingly using new manufacturing technologies. Retirements will create some job openings in the coming years, as half the workforce is 39 years of age or older.

Due to the increased use of electronics in machinery and process control, there is more of an overlap between mechanical and electrical and electronics engineering. Engineers with a joint background will be highly sought-after due to the multidisciplinary nature of many of today's engineering problems.

## Typical Jobs

Avionics Engineer  
Communications Engineer  
Television Systems Engineer  
Roadway Lighting Design Engineer

## Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologist  
Computer Engineers  
Mechanical Engineering

# Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**4850**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**152**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group of occupations includes technicians, technologists, and mechanics in fields related to electrical engineering and instrumentation.

Electrical and electronics engineering technologists and technicians provide technical support in the design, testing, and operation of electrical and electronic equipment and systems. Electronic service technicians service and repair household and business electronic equipment. Industrial instrument technicians and mechanics repair, maintain, adjust, and install industrial measuring and controlling instrumentation.

Aircraft and avionics mechanics and technicians adjust, repair, and overhaul aircraft instruments and electrical and avionics systems on aircraft.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should be interested in technology and discovering how things work. Good mechanical aptitude, attention to detail, and patience are necessary. You must be able to work under pressure and be able to collaborate and cooperate with others as part of a team. Effective oral and written communication skills are also important.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a two- or three-year college program in electrical or electronic engineering technology, computer engineering technology, telecommunications technology, or an equivalent program is usually required for electrical or electronics engineering technologists.
- Electrical or electronics engineering technicians may only be required to obtain a one- to two-year program in a related field.
- Two- to three-year college programs in electronics, or completion of a four-year apprenticeship program in electronic servicing and repair, or completion of high school or college courses in electronics and on-the-job training are required to become an electronic service technician.
- An industrial instrument technician or mechanic would require the same number of years of experience and/or academic training in industrial instrument repair or technology.
- Aircraft electrical technicians are usually required to complete a college program in the electrical or electronics field plus several years of on-the-job training. Mechanics and technicians who authorize maintenance releases require an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer licence issued by Transport Canada.
- Although certification is not a requirement, graduates of the Engineering Technology program must complete two years of work experience to be registered as Certified Engineering Technologists and Technicians.

### Employment Outlook

The manufacturing, communications, and utilities industries are the main employers for industrial instrument technicians and mechanics, and growth in these industries is expected to be steady in the coming years.

Demand for electrical and electronics engineering technologists and technicians is expected to be strong because businesses are increasingly using new manufacturing technologies and there is growth in the communications sector. Electronics has been identified as a growing sector in the Halifax area, particularly in the area of instrumentation.

Electronic service technicians who provide services for household and business equipment should experience good employment prospects as technology continues to become more accessible and affordable to these clients.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Instrument Mechanic  
Avionics Technician  
Computer Service Technician  
Electronics Design Technologist  
Industrial Instrument Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and  
Regulatory Officers  
Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors  
Construction Millwrights  
and Industrial Mechanics



# Farm Management Specialists and Agricultural Consultants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
100

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
3

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$21.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

People working in these occupations give help and advice to farmers on farm management, cultivation, fertilization, harvesting, soil erosion, soil composition, nutrition, crop rotation, and marketing.

For example, their activities may include analyzing agricultural data and preparing research reports; meeting with researchers, educators, government, or business managers on matters relating to farming and agriculture; and maintaining records of services provided.

Agrologists study farm crops and animals and develop ways of improving their quantity and quality, and controlling pests and weeds more effectively. They also research methods of changing raw agricultural commodities into healthy food products for consumers.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should enjoy diverse working conditions. Good observation skills and analytical abilities are also important. You must communicate and cooperate well with others, as agrologists often work in teams. A farming background is helpful but not necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree is required to work in these occupations. This is adequate for many sales, production management, inspection, and other non-research jobs.
- However, many agrologists and agricultural specialists have master's or Ph.D. degrees, as positions in research and management generally require more education.
- Degrees in related sciences such as biology or chemistry or in related engineering specialties also may qualify persons for some jobs in the agricultural science area.
- The Agrologists Act of Nova Scotia requires all persons practising agrology in the province to be registered with the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists. To receive the designation of Professional Agrologist, you are required to have either a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture or a bachelor's degree with some experience in agriculture.

### Other Considerations

Unlike other agricultural occupations, there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment.

### Employment Outlook

This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Because this occupational group assists the farming community, employment opportunities are often based in a rural setting. The average age of this occupational group in Nova Scotia is 38 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings. Self-employment is common for this occupational group.

Changing environmental regulations, food and quality standards, and food safety standards are making this a more challenging field of expertise.

### Typical Jobs

Farm Management Specialist  
Crop or Livestock Specialist  
Agrologist  
Agronomist

### Related Occupations

Biologists and Related Scientists

# Foresters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**110**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Foresters work in teams to conduct research, develop sustainable forest management plans, and administer and direct programs related to the sustainable management of forest resources. They apply their knowledge and experience to manage the forest for their employers and the public by planning and directing forest surveys, preparing recommendations, and establishing short and long-term objectives for the management of forest resources. They plan and direct programs for harvesting, reforestation, silviculture, fire prevention and fire suppression, road building, wildlife management, environmental protection, and insect and vegetation control.

Foresters also plan and direct public relations, education, and extension programs related to forestry; develop policy related to the forestry; and provide advice and recommendations as consultants on forestry issues to private woodlot owners, municipal, provincial or federal governments, and companies.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an aptitude for seeing the bigger picture, which will be needed for long-term resource management. Good communication skills are required to convey this picture to your coworkers and the public. Leadership and effective oral and written communication skills are necessary. You must be able to work as part of a team, using both administrative and project management skills. You should enjoy working outdoors and be physically capable of travelling through rough terrain, but also recognize that a portion of your time will be spent working in an office environment where computer skills are required. An interest in science and biology, and the relationships between living organisms in particular, with start you on the right path.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in forestry or forestry engineering is required.
- The Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia certifies professional foresters. This designation is voluntary in Nova Scotia, although other provinces may require certification to practise in this field.
- To become a designated professional forester or Registered Professional Forester (RPF), you must have a Bachelor of Science in Forestry or Forestry Engineering, have two years' work experience under the direction of a professional forester, and successfully pass an exam regarding forestry laws, provincial legislation regulations, and ethics.

### Other Considerations

Unlike other forestry occupations, there are no significant seasonal patterns of unemployment among foresters.

### Employment Outlook

Work prospects are expected to be fair for forestry professionals over the forecast period. Forests are a renewable resource and, due to the relatively small landmass of Nova Scotia, managing this resource to ensure its sustainability is very important. Increasing concerns about the environment and a need for responsible land management will result in changes in forestry practices, which in time may lead to the creation of new employment possibilities.

Foresters work for a variety of diverse employers such as federal, provincial, and municipal governments, private industry, consulting and research firms, colleges, universities, and non-governmental organizations. Important fields of research include biotechnology, silviculture and silvics, forest economics, and remote sensing.

The average age of foresters is 42 years, which is slightly above the average for all occupations. Retirements should contribute to some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Registered Professional Forester  
Consulting Forester  
Forest Agrologist  
Forest Engineer  
Forest Pathologist

### Related Occupations

Farm Management Specialists and  
Agricultural Consultants  
Biologists and Related Scientists  
Logging and Forestry Workers  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists

# Forestry Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**350**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Forestry technologists and technicians work to manage forests and protect the environment. They may work independently or provide technical and supervisory abilities in support of forestry research and forest resources conservation and protection.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy technical work and have an interest in science. A high degree of manual dexterity and mechanical ability may be necessary. You must be methodical, precise and analytical, and able to work alone or as part of a team. Good oral and written communication skills are important, as well as the ability to supervise and coordinate the work of others. Familiarity with mapping techniques and computerized information systems may be required for some positions. Physical stamina may be needed for fieldwork.

### Employment Requirements

- You will require completion of a one- to three-year college program in forestry technology or renewable resources.
- You may choose to prepare for the Certified Forestry Worker designation administered by the Forestry Safety Society of Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

Resource conservation and environmental concerns may help to generate job opportunities for people in these occupations. People in these occupations usually work regular hours; however, irregular hours may be required to follow through on an experiment or fieldwork.

### Employment Outlook

Increased mechanization of logging operations and improvements in logging equipment are expected to continue to depress demand for this occupation.

Many people in this occupation are either self-employed or work for the public sector. Mobility may be possible to occupations in natural resources and wildlife management, and in parks management. The majority of opportunities for this occupation are concentrated in Nova Scotia's North Shore. The average hourly income of this occupation is relatively high in comparison to related occupations.

Forestry management increasingly uses technology. People working in this field should continuously upgrade their skills to stay abreast of new technologies.

### Typical Jobs

Forest Fire Technician  
Silviculture Technician  
Forestry Technologist  
Forest Technician

### Related Occupations

Foresters  
Biological Technicians and Technologists  
Conservation and Fishery Officers

# Geologists and Oceanographers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
280

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
7

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$23.50 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Geologists, geochemists, and geophysicists explore to locate hydrocarbon, mineral, and groundwater resources; to plan and implement programs of hydrocarbon and mineral extraction; and to assess the effects of development and waste disposal projects on the environment.

Geologists conduct research into the nature and history of the earth's crust. To do this, they search for mineral and energy resources, and study the distribution, circulation, and properties of water and sediment. They might do geological mapping using remote sensing and field techniques; identify minerals and rocks; direct field studies; and develop software for the analysis and interpretation of data.

Activities may also include identifying and anticipating natural risks such as slope erosion, landslides, and earthquakes; conducting geochemical analysis of water and sediments for environmental assessments; and identifying factors that influence environmental quality, such as the effects of waste disposal.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in the earth's structure and materials. The ability to communicate and cooperate with others is important, as these individuals often work in teams. Also, a familiarity with computers is essential. You should be curious, adaptable, and patient, and enjoy working with scientific data. Physical stamina may be necessary for those doing fieldwork in remote areas or at sea.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree in geology, geochemistry, geophysics, or a related discipline is required.
- A post-graduate degree, or a bachelor's degree with on-the-job experience, is preferred.
- A post-graduate degree in geophysics, physics, mathematics, or engineering is usually required to work as a geophysicist.
- Oceanographic scientists and paleontologists generally have a Ph.D. in science (geology, biology, chemistry, or physics).

### Other Considerations

Any future oil and natural gas exploration and development activity may generate job opportunities for geologists with the appropriate training.

### Employment Outlook

Geologists may work in the areas of oil and gas exploration, mineral exploration, and environmental geology, or pursue research opportunities. The decline of the coal-mining industry in Cape Breton has negatively impacted employment for geologists in the mining industry. The anticipated reopening of some mines in Nova Scotia may create employment opportunities for this occupation. Given global market conditions for oil and gas, there may be increased employment for geologists in this sector through increased exploration and development opportunities in the coming years.

Oceanography is a multidisciplinary research field, involving geological, physical, chemical, and biological research disciplines. This occupation is affected by funding for research and development initiatives. The growth of Nova Scotia's offshore petroleum industry, the need for ocean management, and increased spending on research into marine ecosystems and ocean climate and variability should maintain stable employment growth for this occupation.

The average age of this occupational group is 43 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings for this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Environmental Geologist  
Geophysicist  
Geochemist  
Petroleum Geologist  
Paleontologist

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians  
and Technologists  
Chemists  
Geological Engineers

# Industrial and Manufacturing Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
220

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
8

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$24.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Industrial and manufacturing engineers study, develop, and supervise programs to achieve efficient industrial production and use of industrial human resources, machinery, materials, information, and energy. They plan and design plant layouts and facilities, develop manufacturing systems, analyze production costs, assess facilities, and determine skill requirements of workers.

Industrial engineers are the bridge between management and operations, and are concerned with increasing productivity through the management of people and methods of business organization, but must also spend a large amount of time with the people who are key components of the systems being designed.

Manufacturing engineers plan, direct, and coordinate elements of design, materials, and manufacturing process in industrial plants. They design products and develop processes for production, standards, and quality control.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be interested in organizing, managing, and integrating automation in the workplace. Persistence, ingenuity, and the ability to think analytically and logically are important. You must be able to communicate and work well with others, as engineers often work in teams. Good judgement, problem-solving, and leadership skills are also expected. Computer experience would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Other Considerations

The services provided by people in these occupations are becoming more important as firms strive to become more competitive through the use of technologically advanced equipment and more efficient means of production. The rising importance of research into the design and production of new products should also contribute to job openings in these fields. It is essential for workers to keep up to date with changing technology.

### Employment Outlook

Industrial engineering has broadened into such areas as food, banking, health care, and commercial aviation with a focus on services to clients. The increasingly diverse sectors in which industrial engineers work will broaden their employment opportunities in coming years.

The emphasis on quality control in manufacturing requires that manufacturing engineers have expertise in quality control methods and techniques to meet international standards.

### Typical Jobs

Cost Engineer  
Quality Control Engineer  
Production Engineer  
Safety Engineer

### Related Occupations

Advertising, Management, and  
Promotion Consultants  
Mechanical Engineers  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists



# Industrial Designers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**130**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Industrial designers develop and design countless manufactured products such as cars, home appliances, children's toys, computer equipment, and medical, office, or recreational equipment. To do this, they create design concepts, sketches, or models, and prepare specifications and guidelines for production. They combine artistic talent with research on product use, marketing, materials, and production methods to create the most functional and appealing design and to make the product competitive with others in the marketplace. As an industrial designer, you would consult with clients, engineers, or production specialists to establish product requirements; analyze the intended use of the product; and conduct research into the costs and methods of production.

Furniture designers design furniture for manufacture, according to knowledge of design trends, competitors' products, production costs, capability of production facilities, and characteristics of a company's market. To facilitate production, they may also design and prepare detailed drawings of fixtures, forms, or tools required to be used in production.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be creative, imaginative, and artistic. You must be able to communicate ideas both visually and verbally. You must be able to work well with people and be open to new ideas and influences. Computer skills, especially familiarity with computer-aided design, are an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree in industrial design, architecture, or engineering, or a college diploma in industrial design, is usually required to work in this field. Courses in marketing may also be useful.
- Creative ability must be demonstrated through a portfolio of work.

### Other Considerations

The rate at which new manufacturing technology is adopted will affect the number of job openings in these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

Industrial designers work across a diverse set of industries. Approximately one-fifth of all industrial designers in Nova Scotia are self-employed. The average age of this occupation is 43 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Furniture Designer  
Industrial Products Designer  
Industrial Design Consultant  
Product Designer  
Package Designer

### Related Occupations

Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Electronics and Electrical Engineering  
Technicians and Technologists  
Architectural Technicians and  
Technologists  
Drafting Technicians and  
Technologists  
Graphic Designers  
Interior Designers

# Information Systems Analysts and Consultants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1900**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**61**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

People in these jobs research, develop, and implement plans and procedures for information systems development. They develop business solutions for information systems and provide advice on a wide range of information systems issues.

Information systems business analysts and consultants meet with their clients to discuss what issues and requirements need to be taken care of; research both business and technical issues; design, develop and implement what they call 'information systems business solutions'; and provide advice on the best way to use information systems.

Systems security analysts assess physical and technical security risks to data, software, and hardware, and develop policies, procedures, and contingency plans to prevent security breaches and minimize their effects.

Information systems quality assurance analysts develop and implement policies and procedures at each stage of software development. They work to maximize the efficiency, effectiveness, and overall quality of software products and information systems.

Systems auditors review quality assurance practices, software products, and information systems.

## Skills

To work in these occupations, you should enjoy helping your clients develop solutions to meet their needs, and have good analytical and problem-solving skills. You must have good numerical ability and an understanding of mathematics, and be methodical and precise. Accuracy and good proofreading skills are required to detect, locate, and avoid errors in code. Oral and written communication skills are required in working with and advising clients. As these fields are constantly changing, you should always be prepared to update your knowledge and skills on a regular basis.

## Employment Requirements

- To work in these occupations you will require either a bachelor's degree in computer science, computer systems engineering, software engineering, or business administration, or a college diploma in computer science.
- Experience as a computer programmer is usually required.

## Employment Outlook

Employment of information systems analysts and consultants is expected to grow in the coming years as organizations continue to adopt and integrate new technologies.

Falling prices of computer hardware and software should continue to induce businesses to expand their computerized operations.

Employment growth will also be seen in computer system design and related technologies. The expansion of electronic commerce in both the public and private sectors should fuel demand for these occupations.

Overall, employment prospects for this occupation are rated as good in the coming years.

## Typical Jobs

Business Systems Analyst  
Computer Consultant  
Systems Security Analyst  
Informatics Consultant  
Systems Analyst

## Related Occupations

Advertising, Management and Promotion Consultants  
Accountants and Financial Auditors  
Database Analysts and Data Administrators  
Software Engineers

# Landscape and Horticultural Technicians and Specialists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**240**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals develop and maintain landscapes, gardens, parks, and golf courses. They may focus on growing trees and plants and keeping them healthy, they may work as landscapers, or they may be more interested in designing and developing new gardens and landscapes.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy technical work and have an interest in science. A high degree of manual dexterity and mechanical ability may be necessary. You must be able to work alone or as part of a team. Good communication skills are important. Physical stamina may be required for landscaping and

gardening. Some jobs may require working with dangerous chemical substances or exposure to unpleasant odours.

### Employment Requirements

- You would usually need to complete a university or college program in agronomy, arboriculture, horticulture, landscaping, landscape design, or landscape technology.
- Golf course superintendents, landscape gardeners, and landscapers may first require experience as landscape or grounds maintenance labourers.
- If you apply chemical fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and pesticides, you may require a pesticide applicator's licence from the Department of Environment and Labour.

### Employment Outlook

The construction of new homes and businesses influences employment for this group, and this activity is expected to slow down in the coming years. Nova Scotia's aging population should stimulate some employment demand for private lawn-care services and landscaping.

Another factor influencing this occupation which cannot be predicted is weather patterns. For example, after severe hurricanes there may be spikes in demand for this occupation linked to landscape reconstruction. This is not a large occupation in Nova Scotia, and employment is often seasonal.

### Typical Jobs

Landscape Gardener  
Horticulture Worker  
Arborist  
Golf Course Superintendent

### Related Occupations

Agriculture and Horticulture Workers  
Biological Technicians and Technologists  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists  
Nursery and Greenhouse Operators and Managers  
Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Contractors

# Mapping and Related Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**200**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Cartographers and mapping technicians interpret various sources of information, such as aerial photographs, survey notes, records, and other maps, to design and prepare topographic maps using computer-aided or traditional drafting techniques. Geographic information system (GIS) technologists use GIS technology to produce detailed maps. Aerial survey technicians and remote sensing technologists operate remote sensing equipment, such as survey cameras that produce images of large areas of the earth; develop specialized computer software; and perform data entry and editing activities.

### Skills

For these occupations, a neat and systematic approach to projects is important. You must be accurate, precise, and efficient. The ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines may also be necessary. Good computer skills are highly recommended.

### Employment Requirements

- Technicians in this category are required to obtain a one- to two-year college program in cartography, remote sensing, geographic information systems, or a related area.
- To work as a technologist, you will generally need at least two

years of post-secondary training in cartography, photogrammetry, aerial surveying, remote sensing, geographic information systems, or a combination of some of these disciplines. Admission to advanced training may require a bachelor's degree, certificate, or diploma in an appropriate area of study.

### Employment Outlook

The Centre of Geomatics Sciences in Lawrencetown is expected to generate some employment for this occupation in the coming years as they have recently received public and private funding to support the Applied Geomatics Research Group. This is a relatively small occupational group in Nova Scotia.

Most employment opportunities are concentrated in the Halifax area. Overall in Nova Scotia, there are a limited number of employers for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Aerial Survey Technician  
Cartographer  
Geographic Information System (GIS) Technologist  
Mapping Technician  
Remote Sensing Technologist

### Related Occupations

Survey Technicians and Technologists  
Historians, Sociologists,  
Archaeologists and Other Social Scientists

# Mathematicians, Statisticians, and Actuaries

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
170

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
4

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$21.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

These individuals research and apply theories regarding mathematics, probability, statistics, and risk.

Mathematicians participate in a variety of activities, ranging from the creation of new mathematical theories and techniques involving the latest technology to the solving of economic, scientific, engineering, and business problems, using mathematical knowledge and computational tools.

Statisticians conduct research into the science of statistics, develop statistical methodology, and advise on the practical application of statistical methodology.

Actuaries apply mathematics, probability, statistics, and risk theory to calculate risks associated with areas such as insurance, health and retirement systems, and investments. For example, they may assemble and analyze statistics to calculate probabilities of death, sickness, injury, disability, unemployment, retirement, and property loss.

### Skills

This work demands strong mathematical and analytical skills. You should be concise, accurate, detail-oriented, and able to develop creative solutions to new problems. Good oral and written communication skills are important. You must be capable of working on your own and meeting deadlines. Computer skills are essential.

### Employment Requirements

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree in mathematics or statistics is required to work in the field of mathematics or statistics. Those using the title of mathematician or statistician normally have a master's or Ph.D. degree in that field.
- To become an actuary, you would generally need a bachelor's degree or college diploma in mathematics, statistics, or operations research to successfully complete the actuarial professional examinations. You do not need a university degree to become an actuary; however, most actuaries have a bachelor's degree in mathematics, business administration, or commerce.
- To use the professional title Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries, actuaries must be accredited with the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. You must complete three years of work experience and a series of exams given by the institute to become fully accredited. In completing these examinations, a candidate must choose a specialty track. The five specialty tracks are Finance, Group and Health Benefits, Individual Life and Annuity, Pension, and Investment.

### Employment Outlook

Opportunities vary slightly among the different occupations in this group. Generally, vacancies exist for the relatively small number of people with these skills in Nova Scotia's labour market. Compensation for these professionals is significantly above the average for all occupations in Nova Scotia, and turnover is low.

Statisticians can work in very diverse sectors, and demand for this profession should remain stable. An increasing number of mathematicians are being employed in software and other computer-related positions. Professorial positions may exist for those with doctoral degrees in mathematics and statistics. Most computer, science, and engineering professions require extensive mathematical training, which boosts demand for mathematics teachers. Actuaries are moving into fields such as compensation consulting, health care, and financial planning.

### Typical Jobs

Statistical Analyst  
Demographer  
Biostatistician  
Actuary  
Insurance Actuary

### Related Occupations

Accountants and Financial Auditors  
University Professors and Assistants

# Mechanical Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**720**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**20**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$25.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Mechanical engineers plan and design tools, engines, machines, and other mechanical equipment. They design and develop power-producing machines such as internal combustion engines, steam and gas turbines, and jet and rocket engines. They also research, design, and develop machinery and systems for heating, ventilating and air-conditioning, processing, and manufacturing. They may be responsible for the evaluation, installation, operation, and maintenance of mechanical systems. Activities may include preparing material, cost, and timing estimates; writing reports and design specifications for machinery and systems; and investigating mechanical failures or unexpected maintenance problems. Some engineers work in an office most of the time, while others work in laboratories, industrial plants, or construction sites where they inspect, supervise, and solve on-site problems.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in the design and operation of machines and mechanical processes. Persistence, good judgement, and the ability to think analytically and logically are important. You must be able to communicate and work well with others, as engineers often work in teams. Leadership and problem-solving skills are also expected. Computer experience would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Other Considerations

Workers should be prepared to keep up to date with changing technology.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation has an average age of 41 years and retirements are expected to create some job openings. The growing use of electronics in machinery and process controls will lead to increased overlap between mechanical, and electrical and electronics engineering. Engineers with a combination of these skills will be sought after. Mechanical engineering is not seasonal, and employment is not very sensitive to overall economic conditions. Overall, employment prospects are expected to be fair over the forecast period.

### Typical Jobs

Energy Conservation Engineer  
Fluid Mechanics Engineer  
Automotive Engineer  
Mechanical Engineer  
Refrigeration Engineer

### Related Occupations

Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Ship's Captain and Other  
Deck Officers  
Stationary and Power Engineers  
Electrical and Electronics Engineers



# Meteorologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**70**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$26.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Meteorologists analyze and forecast weather; provide consultation on atmospheric conditions; and conduct research into the nature and processes of weather, climate, and related issues. Activities may include analyzing and interpreting data obtained from many sources such as meteorological stations, weather satellites, and radar. Atmospheric physicists analyze the impact of industrial projects on the climate and quality of the air, and develop and test mathematical computer models of weather and climate.

### Skills

The work of these individuals is detailed and precise, and often demands close concentration for long periods of time. Good judgement,

initiative, and the ability to handle stressful situations are needed. You must be able to meet deadlines and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, to supply information to users. Computer skills would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Meteorologists are generally required to have a Bachelor of Science degree and a diploma in Meteorology, or a Master of Science degree in Meteorology, Physics, Mathematics, or another related field.
- For employment as a weather forecaster with the federal government, you may also be required to complete nine to twelve months of on-the-job training in a government internship

program. You should contact Environment Canada to gain more information on this program.

- Ph.D. is usually required for employment as a research scientist in the field of meteorology.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia, and the number of employers is limited. The main employers of meteorologists are Environment Canada, the Canadian Armed Forces, private consulting companies, resource and utility companies, and provincial governments. Environment Canada has centralized its meteorological service in recent years, which has negatively affected demand for this occupation. However, increased funding for research to examine

climate change may create some employment opportunities for this occupation.

The average age of meteorologists in Nova Scotia is approximately 50 years. This is far above the average for all occupations, and retirements are expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Climatologist  
Atmospheric Physicist  
Meteorologist  
Weather Forecaster

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists

# Mining Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**60**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**1**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Mining engineers design and manage mines and other large geotechnical projects. They determine the best processes to extract minerals and ores from underground and surface mines, and supervise these processes.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need persistence and good judgement. The ability to think analytically and logically is important. You must be able to communicate and cooperate with others, as engineers often work in teams. Leadership and problem-solving skills are also necessary. Computer experience is an important asset.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law,

and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia, with a workforce of approximately 60. Opportunities for this occupation are concentrated in the Annapolis Valley and North Shore areas.

A decline in the local coal-mining industry has decreased demand for this occupation. However, the development of a quartz mine and the proposed reopening of a gypsum plant may create some employment opportunities. The average age of mining engineers is 44 years, and retirements are expected to create job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Mine Safety Engineer  
Mineral Engineer  
Mine Layout Engineer  
Mining Engineer

### Related Occupations

Geologists and Oceanographers  
Petroleum Engineers

# Petroleum Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**120**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**0**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$29.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Petroleum engineers conduct studies related to the exploration, development, and extraction of oil and gas deposits, and plan and supervise oil and gas production facilities.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need persistence and good judgement. The ability to think analytically and logically is important. You must be able to communicate and cooperate with others, as engineers often work in teams. Leadership and problem-solving skills are also necessary. Computer experience is an important asset.

### Employment Requirements

- An engineering degree from an accredited university is required.
- With the exception of engineers employed by the Canadian Forces, professional engineers must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS) and have four years of relevant work experience to practise in Nova Scotia.
- Experience is gained by becoming involved in a mentorship program where a professional engineer supervises a trainee's work. During this time the trainee must prepare diaries that will be assessed by APENS, and eventually must pass a professional practice exam regarding engineering ethics, law, and legislation. This exam may be written after gaining at least two years of direct engineering experience.

### Employment Outlook

Petroleum engineers conduct studies for the exploration, development, and extraction of oil and gas deposits. The number of employers for this occupational group in Nova Scotia is limited, and demand for this occupation is influenced by growth in the oil and natural gas industry, which has experienced a slowdown in recent years. In the longer term, high commodity prices for oil and gas may increase exploration activity in Nova Scotia and create employment opportunities for this occupation.

The average age of this occupation is approximately 33 years, which is far below the average for all occupations. Because of this, retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings. Petroleum engineers work all around the world, and the best employment opportunities may be in other countries.

### Typical Jobs

Drilling Engineer, Oil and Gas  
Production Engineer, Oil and Gas  
Subsea Engineer  
Petroleum Engineer

### Related Occupations

Geologists and Oceanographers  
Chemical Engineers

# Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
730

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
22

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

These occupations specialize in the physical sciences such as geology, chemistry, oceanography, and meteorology.

Duties include carrying out technical or technological functions using knowledge of scientific mathematical principles and laboratory practices. For example, chemical engineering and petroleum engineering technicians and technologists use the principles and theories of science, engineering, and mathematics to solve problems in research and development, manufacturing, sales, construction, and customer service. Chemical technologists and technicians may provide technical support in chemical engineering and biochemical research, among other duties.

Geological technologists conduct or direct geochemical, hydrographic, or oceanographic surveys; exploratory drilling; well logging; or underground mine survey programs. They may operate and maintain equipment, and assist engineers and geologists in the evaluation and analysis of petroleum and mineral reservoirs. Meteorological technicians work in such areas as observation, data acquisition, inspection, and quality assurance. Oceanographic technicians prepare, maintain, and operate a variety of instruments; collect and process data; and write reports. The work takes place both in the lab and at sea.

## Skills

The skills and aptitudes for these occupations are as varied as the entrance requirements. You should be interested in science and technology and be able to work with detailed processes, machines, and techniques. Familiarity with computers is necessary for some positions. An aptitude for mathematics and the sciences at the high school level is important.

Some of these jobs involve exposure to heat, noise, vibration, fumes, and dust, while other jobs are in a relatively clean laboratory environment.

## Employment Requirements

- Chemical technologists are usually required to complete a two- or three-year college program in chemical, biochemical, or chemical engineering technology or a closely related field. Chemical technicians, on the other hand, are generally only required to complete a one- or two-year college program in one of the above fields.
- Employment requirements for occupations related to geology and mineralogy vary, but may include completion of a two- to three-year college program in geological technology, petroleum technology, or petroleum or mining engineering technology.
- Oceanographic technicians are required to complete a three-year university general science program, including mathematics and computers. Additional on-the-job training is required.
- Meteorological technicians require a minimum of high school completion and a 12-week training program provided by Environment Canada. Preference is given to those with related technical institute or university training. Data acquisition specialists require at least one year of electronics technician training.

## Employment Outlook

Overall, employment of physical sciences technicians and technologists is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations through the year 2010. Continued growth of scientific and medical research, particularly research related to biotechnology, as well as the development and production of technical products, should stimulate demand for chemical technologists and technicians across many industries. Employment of geological and mineral technologists and technicians is largely fuelled by activity in the mining, pulp and paper, and chemical industries and in the professional business services sector, and it is expected that employment prospects should remain stable for these professionals. There are very few meteorological technicians employed in Nova Scotia.

There is considerable mobility among applied chemical technologists and technicians. Advancement to specialist or project leader positions among these professionals is possible with experience. Mobility is also possible among some occupations in the geological sciences group and related fields such as civil engineering. However, mobility for meteorological technicians is extremely limited because these workers are very specialized.

## Typical Jobs

Chemical Research Technician  
Geological Technologist  
Climate Service Specialist  
Petroleum Engineering Technologist  
Oceanographic Technician  
Meteorological Technician

## Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers  
Survey Technicians and Technologists  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Processing

# Physicists and Astronomers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
90

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
3

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$25.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Physicists conduct research to learn more about natural occurrences and to develop new processes in fields such as electronics, communications, power generation/distribution, aerodynamics, optics, remote sensing, and medicine.

Research activities may include designing apparatus, conducting experiments, and analyzing results. Physicists may specialize in fields such as astronomy and space, acoustics, atomic and molecular physics, biophysics, and health physics.

Astronomers may specialize in fields such as observational or optical astronomy, radio astronomy, and theoretical astrophysics. Duties of astronomers include designing, conducting and analyzing observational surveys; developing models to learn more about celestial bodies; and building cameras, receivers, and adaptive instruments.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be imaginative, patient, persistent, and curious. Mathematical, analytical, and mechanical abilities are essential. You must be able to conduct research, use computers, and perform complex calculations. Communication skills are also important, as scientists often work in teams.

### Employment Requirements

- A minimum of a Ph.D. in a specialized field such as engineering physics or astronomy is required to teach at colleges or universities or to conduct independent research. To apply for a Ph.D. program, you will usually require successful completion of a four-year honours bachelor's degree program or an acceptable equivalent and completion of a one- or two-year master's degree or equivalent. Applicants should be able to demonstrate an ability to perform advanced research.

### Other Considerations

Although the number of job openings for physicists and astronomers is likely to remain limited, the supply of new people qualified to work in these occupations is also limited by the significant investment in education that is required.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupation in Nova Scotia. Federal research expenditures are a major source of research funds related to physics and astronomy, and in Nova Scotia this funding is limited. Many graduates of Dalhousie's physics and astronomy programs go on to find employment opportunities in other provinces and other countries.

Employment can be found in a wide range of areas such as research and development, teaching, computing, health sciences, and management and administration. There is a growing trend for physicists to be employed in a wide variety of fields in the applied sciences, and they often hold jobs that do not necessarily reflect their physics background.

### Typical Jobs

Nuclear Physicist  
Astronomer  
Astrophysicist  
Biophysicist  
Experimental Physicist

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists  
Geologists and Oceanographers

# Professional Land Surveyors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
300

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
10

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Land surveyors establish legal boundaries of land, water, and air under the provisions of the Land Surveyors Act. To do this, they determine the location of boundaries, and prepare and certify legal plans and written descriptions for leases, rights-of-way, and other interests in land, water, and air. In addition, land surveyors also survey land surfaces to determine the location of physical features of boundaries; describe and locate topographic and hydrographic features of land and land covered by water; measure land areas for map-making; set alignment for construction projects; survey surface and underground features of mines; and survey sea, river, and lake beds.

Associated activities include the preparation of plans, charts, records, and documents related to the survey. Land surveyors provide consulting on legal survey issues, such as land developments and construction projects. Land surveyors must be up-to-date with the latest technology, including electronic total stations, global positioning equipment, and a wide variety of computers using survey, computer-aided design (CAD), and geographic information system (GIS) software.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be physically fit and enjoy working outdoors. Good health and eyesight are necessary. You must be capable of precise and detailed work, and be able to perform mathematical calculations quickly. Strong technical abilities in the use of new and emerging technologies and an aptitude for mathematics and physics at the high school level are important. A high level of communication skills is essential. You must be able to communicate both verbally and in written form on technical, legal, and business issues.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in geodesy and geomatics engineering or survey science, or successful completion of equivalent examinations set by the Atlantic Provinces Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors (APBELS), is required.
- If you wish to become a land surveyor after completing your degree, you must pass the APBELS exams, write exams in Statute and Association Law, and then work with a licensed Nova Scotia land surveyor for up to two years.
- Successful completion of the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors exams will qualify you to become a Canada Lands Surveyor.
- All licensed land surveyors in Nova Scotia must belong to the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors in order to practise.

### Other Considerations

Work in these occupations is seasonal, with unemployment highest in the winter months. Surveyors usually work regular hours; however, they often work longer hours during the summer in order to meet their clients' deadlines.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is expected to be higher in Halifax than the rest of Nova Scotia, primarily due to new construction developments. Overall, in the next few years, a slowdown in construction activity will reduce employment for this group. However, the average age of this occupation is 46 and retirements should contribute to some job openings. Approximately one-third of these professionals are self-employed. Employment in this occupation has been affected by new technologies such as the Global Positioning System (GPS), which may induce more land surveying to be done. Traditional land surveying techniques are work-intensive and can be costly.

### Typical Jobs

Surveyor  
Professional Land Surveyor  
Land Surveyor  
Property Surveyor

### Related Occupations

Survey Technicians and Technologists  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Civil Engineers



# Railway and Marine Traffic Controllers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**50**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$26.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These occupations coordinate passenger and freight train traffic, and coastal and inland marine traffic.

Activities of railway traffic controllers may include operating centralized traffic control systems to coordinate railway traffic; charting train movements; calculating arrival and departure times; and issuing orders to control the movement of passenger and freight train traffic. Activities of marine traffic controllers may include directing vessel movements; advising vessels of traffic and weather conditions; and reporting accidents, distress signals, and navigational hazards to authorities.

### Skills

For these occupations, you need a strong sense of responsibility and the ability to perform under pressure. Attention to detail is important. You must be alert and articulate, and have excellent communication skills.

### Employment Requirements

- Both railway and marine traffic controllers are normally required to complete high school plus have several years of experience in their respective fields.
- Up to six weeks of classroom and on-the-job training is available for railway traffic controllers. Train dispatchers are required to achieve a Level 'A' Certificate of the

Canadian Rail Operating Rules. A train operator is required to obtain a Level 'B' Certificate of the Canadian Rail Operating Rules.

- Marine traffic controllers require several months of formal traffic regulator training.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. The ongoing work to develop the port of Halifax and the corresponding growth in port activity is expected to create some employment opportunities for marine traffic controllers.

Employment opportunities for railway and marine traffic controllers are concentrated in the Halifax area.

The average age of this occupational group in Nova Scotia is approximately 47 years, which is higher than the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements will contribute to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Train Dispatcher  
Train Operator  
Railway Traffic Controller  
Marine Traffic Regulator

# Ship's Captain and Other Deck Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**560**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**25**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Ship's deck officers are responsible for ships or self-propelled vessels that are used to transport passengers and cargo. They may plan and execute safe passage using navigational aids and determine the geographical position of the ship using navigational instruments, maps, and charts. They also direct and oversee the loading and unloading of cargo; and record on the ship's log the vessel's progress, crew's activities, and weather and sea conditions.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should enjoy being at sea. A sense of responsibility and strong leadership qualities are needed. You must be in good health and meet eyesight and colour vision requirements. Problem-solving and decision-making skills are also important. A mechanical aptitude may also be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Deck officers are required to have successfully completed high school.
- They also require either a deck officer cadet program from an approved nautical institute or one to three years of experience as a member of a deck crew.
- Deck officers are required to have the Transport Canada Certificate of Competency. Training is offered at various levels that you may combine to finish with a Master Mariner Certificate.
- Ship pilots require a ship pilot licence issued by the Atlantic Pilotage Authority and a Master Certificate of Competency from Transport Canada.

### Other Considerations

Employment opportunities will mainly depend upon export levels and the ability of shipping companies to be competitive with other forms of transportation.

### Employment Outlook

Employment in deep-sea shipping for mariners, including ship's captains, is expected to be steady in the coming years. New international regulations have raised shipping standards with respect to safety, training, and working conditions. Consequently, competition from ships that sail under foreign flags of convenience should lessen as insurance rates rise for ships that do not meet the new standards.

Possible future developments include oceangoing cargo vessels that use jet propulsion, which would decrease ocean-crossing times significantly. If such plans are

successful, the industry will benefit in terms of increased business and employment.

Ferry service to Newfoundland and other smaller ferry services around the province are the major employers for deck officers. These occupations are typically seasonal.

### Typical Jobs

Navigation Officer  
Ship's Captain  
Ship's First Mate

### Related Occupations

Mechanical Engineers  
Fishing Vessel Masters, Skippers, and Fishermen/women  
Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants  
Ship's Engineer Officers

# Ship's Engineer Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**280**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Engineer officers supervise and coordinate the work of the engine room crew. Duties may include operating main engines, machinery, and all auxiliary equipment aboard ships; standing engine room watch; and inspecting and conducting maintenance and emergency repair to engines and machinery.

### Skills

As a ship's officer, you should enjoy being at sea. A sense of responsibility and strong leadership qualities are needed. You must be in good health and meet eyesight and colour vision requirements. Problem-solving and decision-making skills are important. A mechanical aptitude may be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- You will require a high school diploma to work in this field.
- There are three options for training that meet the requirements for certification as a fourth-class marine engineer. The first option is to take a three-year cadet program in marine engineering from an approved institute. The second option is to gain three years of experience as an engine room crew member, combined with six months of formal training at an approved marine training institute. The third option is to gain three years of experience as an engine mechanic and six months of experience as an engine room crew member.
- A marine engineer certificate of competency issued by Transport Canada is required.

### Other Considerations

Employment opportunities will mainly depend upon export levels and the ability of shipping companies to be competitive with other forms of transportation.

### Employment Outlook

Engineer officers are employed by marine transportation companies and federal government departments, including the armed forces. There is also demand in the Halifax area for shore-based marine technical officers. Ship's engineer officers are employed across Nova Scotia, with the majority of positions concentrated in the Halifax area and in southern Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Ship's Engineer Officer  
Marine Engineer Officer  
Chief Engineer - Water Transport

### Related Occupations

Mechanical Engineers  
Ship's Captain and Other Deck Officers  
Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants  
Biomedical, Marine, and Other Engineers

# Software Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**260**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Software engineers develop, redesign, and troubleshoot various forms of software, e.g. software applications, technical environments, operating systems, and embedded software. To do this, they must understand user requirements, be able to research and interpret technical information, develop performance models and designs, and coordinate the required steps to bring software and systems into operation. Software engineers may also lead teams of information systems professionals when complex projects are in development.

### Skills

Software engineers require an understanding of computer languages and IT terminology. You would need to be analytical, have a solid grasp of mathematics, and be both innovative and methodical. Accuracy and proofreading skills are required to detect, locate, and avoid errors in code. Good communication skills are required to understand user requirements and to lead and coordinate teams of information professionals.

### Employment Requirements

- To work as a software engineer you will require either a bachelor's degree in computer science, computer systems engineering, software engineering, or mathematics, or completion of a college program in computer science.
- Software engineers are not necessarily professional engineers (P.Eng.). If you plan to obtain the P.Eng. designation, you must take a Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board-approved program.
- For some positions, a master's degree or doctorate in a related discipline may be required. Experience as a computer programmer is usually required.

### Other Considerations

Rapid changes in computer technology mean that people in this field should be prepared to keep abreast of new developments in computer hardware, software, and networking technologies.

### Employment Outlook

It is anticipated that there will be expansion in Nova Scotia's information technology sector in the coming years, which will fuel employment growth for this occupation. This is not a large occupational group. Most opportunities will be limited to those who are highly qualified, although some graduates find employment through internship opportunities.

Most employment opportunities are concentrated in the Halifax area. The average age of this occupation is approximately 33 years, which is somewhat less than the average age for all occupations. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Systems Design Engineer  
Software Consultant  
Software Sales Representative  
Technical Architect - Software  
Systems Integration Engineer

### Related Occupations

Computer Engineers  
Information Systems Analysts and Consultants  
Database Analysts and Data Administrators  
Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers  
Web Designers and Developers  
Computer Support Technicians

# Survey Technicians and Technologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**150**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Survey technologists and technicians conduct surveys to determine the exact locations and relative positions of natural features and other structures on the earth's surface.

Survey technologists conduct field surveys and operate survey instruments to measure distance, angles, and elevations; record measurements obtained during field survey activities; and prepare detailed drawings, charts, and plans. Survey technicians participate in field surveys; keep records, measurements, and other survey information; and assist in the calculation, analysis, and computing of measurements obtained during field surveys.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be physically fit and enjoy working outdoors. Good health, eyesight, and manual dexterity are necessary. You must be capable of precise and detailed work, and be able to perform mathematical calculations quickly. Strong technical abilities in the use of new and emerging technologies and an aptitude for mathematics and physics at the high school level are important. A high level of communication skills is necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Survey technologists are usually required to successfully complete a two- to three-year college program in survey technology. A survey technician may only be required to complete a one- to two-year program in survey technology.

### Employment Outlook

Land survey technologists and technicians are employed by all levels of government, by architectural and engineering firms, and by private-sector surveying establishments. There is some mobility among various fields of surveying, such as legal, engineering, mining, and geophysical surveys.

Surveying is increasingly being included as part of a civil engineering technology program that allows civil engineering technologists and technicians to do many of the tasks associated with surveying. This may somewhat negatively affect this occupation in the coming years.

The average age of this occupation is approximately 35 years, which is somewhat below the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Survey Technician/Technologist  
Topographic Survey  
Technician/Technologist  
Geomatics Technician/ Technologist  
Land Survey Technician  
Legal or Cadastral Survey  
Technologist/Technician  
Engineering Survey  
Technician/Technologist

### Related Occupations

Professional Land Surveyors  
Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Mapping and Related Technicians and  
Technologists  
Civil Engineers

# Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1000**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**50**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These occupations include inspectors and regulatory officers.

Non-destructive testers and inspectors, such as radiographic technicians, operate testing equipment to detect defects in objects of various compositions and materials.

Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers, such as elevator inspectors, inspect transportation vehicles and weighing and measuring devices, and ensure compliance to government and industrial standards and regulations. Public health or environmental health inspectors ensure that risks to public health through food, water, and other environments are reduced. Occupational health and safety officials investigate health and safety-related complaints, and manage workplace occupational health and safety programs.

Construction inspectors inspect the construction and maintenance of new and existing structures, and monitor work-site safety. Home inspectors provide technical advice to buyers and owners of real estate.

### Skills

For these occupations, the ability to work effectively with the public under various circumstances is crucial. Good observational and analytical skills are necessary. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. Honesty and integrity are important. Excellent communication skills are also important.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a two-year college or university engineering program is usually required to become a radiographic technician or engineering inspector/regulatory officer. Trade qualifications and extensive related work experience may substitute for formal academic requirements to become an engineering inspector or regulatory officer.
- Non-destructive testing certification by the Canadian General Standards Board is available at three levels and may be required by some employers. Industrial radiographers using radioactive materials are required to obtain an operator's licence issued by the Atomic Energy Control Board.
- A bachelor's degree or diploma in food science, environmental studies, chemistry, or health and safety is usually required for you to become an inspector in public and environmental health, or occupational health and safety.
- Public health or environmental health inspectors will be required to complete a 12-week practicum and obtain certification with the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.
- Occupational health and safety officers may be required to register with the Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals.
- Although not always required, a diploma in construction, civil engineering, or architectural technology plus several years of related work experience, or several years of experience as a qualified tradesperson in a construction trade such as plumbing or carpentry or an electrical trade, would be beneficial for someone considering a career as a building construction inspector.
- To become a registered home inspector, you usually must complete a training program and a required number of inspections.

- Although not required, certification by TechNova is available for engineering technologists.

### Employment Outlook

One factor contributing to demand for this work is growth in environmental and safety regulation. This trend impacts engineering inspectors and inspectors in public, environmental, and occupational health. Accompanying this trend is a professionalization of the occupation and an increase in the roles and responsibilities of inspectors.

Most employment opportunities for technical inspectors and regulatory officers are located in the Halifax area, and the majority of positions are in the area of public administration. The average age of this occupation is approximately 43 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Occupational Health and Safety Official  
Public Health Inspector  
Construction Inspector  
Environmental Health Officer  
Electrical Inspector - Construction

### Related Occupations

Physical Sciences Technicians and Technologists  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related



# Urban and Land Use Planners

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**150**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$21.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

People in these occupations develop programs to provide for growth and revitalization of urban, suburban, and rural communities and their regions.

Planners try to help communities meet their needs while preserving the natural processes. To achieve this, they develop plans and recommend policies for managing the use of land, physical facilities, and associated services for urban and rural areas. Planners help local officials make decisions on the allocation of natural resources, and propose methods to deal with social, economic, and environmental problems.

Duties may involve compiling and analyzing data on demographic, economic, legal, political, cultural, sociological, physical, and other factors affecting land use. This type of work usually requires meeting with municipal, provincial, and federal authorities, social scientists, lawyers, and land developers, and recommending plans affecting land use, public utilities, community facilities, housing, and transportation.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must have good visual and spatial perception and the ability to visualize the effects of plans and designs. Oral, written, and visual communication skills are necessary. You should be flexible, open to different viewpoints, and able to make constructive recommendations. The ability to work well with others is important, as planners often work in teams. Computer and analytical skills would also be helpful. Familiarity with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology is useful.

### Employment Requirements

- You generally need at least a bachelor's degree in urban or regional planning, community design, geography, architecture, engineering, or a related discipline to work in this field.
- A master's degree in any of these disciplines may be preferred or required. Membership in the Canadian Institute of Planners may also be necessary.

### Employment Outlook

Urban and land use planners are typically employed by local governments. However, there has been some mobility from the public sector to private firms. Increasingly, urban planners work with computerized mapping systems, which requires continuous skills upgrading.

In general, the growing interest in 'Smart Cities' and sustainable development should increase demand for urban and land use planners. Across Canada demand for these professionals has risen in the past few years and this trend is expected to continue.

The average age of urban and land use planners in Nova Scotia is 42 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings in the coming years. Overall, employment growth is expected to remain stable.

### Typical Jobs

Environmental Planner  
Municipal Planner  
Park Planner  
Recreation Planner  
Transportation Planner

### Related Occupations

Professional Land Surveyors

# Web Designers and Developers

**Labour  
Market  
Information**

**Outlook  
GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**550**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**14**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Web designers and developers create Internet web sites for use by the public or intranet sites that are used within companies and institutions. Before beginning a new project, they must consult with clients about their requirements and expectations. Design and development of web sites involves a number of key functions. It is necessary to develop the site architecture and consider software and hardware requirements. Content must be created, selected, and organized. This may require the use of databases, graphics, animation, or interactive media software.

## Skills

People who succeed as web designers are both innovative and methodical. You should be able to select and organize site content and information according to meaning and optimal visual presentation on the site. Accuracy and good proofreading skills are required to detect, locate, and avoid errors in code. Numerical ability is required to use web-related programming languages. Strong communication skills are required to assess client's needs and inform them of options and progress. You may be required to lead or coordinate the work of professionals with various types of expertise.

## Employment Requirements

- Positions in this field require either a bachelor's degree in a field such as computer science, communications, or business; or completion of a college program in computer science, graphic arts, web design, or business.
- Experience as a graphic designer or computer programmer is usually required.

## Other Considerations

Rapid advances in technology and design mean that people in this field should be prepared to keep abreast of new developments.

## Employment Outlook

Websites have become an integral part of businesses small and large, and are increasingly being commissioned by individuals. Web designers and developers will find themselves working for diverse sectors: public, private, and not-for-profit. There is a demand for this occupation in Nova Scotia. However, employment is often on a project basis and there can be a time lag between projects. An excellent professional reputation and good contacts aid employment prospects for this occupation.

Keeping up to date with technology and changes in computer coding is an important part of this occupation. Clients are becoming more web-savvy, and smaller businesses and individuals increasingly want websites that they can update themselves.

The average age for this occupation is approximately 34 years, which is slightly below the average age for all occupations. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings. Approximately one-third of these professionals are self-employed.

## Typical Jobs

Web Developer  
Webmaster  
Web Manager  
E-commerce Web Site Developer

## Related Occupations

Graphic Designers  
Information Systems Analysts  
and Consultants  
Computer Programmers and  
Interactive Media Developers  
Computer Support Technicians

Occupations  
in Art, Culture,  
Recreation,  
and Sport



# Actors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**260**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Actors entertain and communicate with people through their interpretation of dramatic roles. They read scripts and, through facial and verbal expression as well as body movement, create a unique personality and character. They may be required to sing or dance, depending on the role.

Acting teachers train students in interpreting scripts, teach them about speech, movement, and dramatic theory, and help them to prepare for acting auditions.

### Skills

To work as an actor, you should be dedicated, motivated, and willing to accept constructive criticism. Talent, creativity, and technical skills are essential. You must be comfortable working with others and performing before an audience. Self-discipline

and a good business sense are also helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Success as an actor depends upon on your talent, perseverance, and performance experience. Early and intensive training is an advantage. Your ability, as demonstrated by an audition or previous roles, is the key hiring criterion.
- Acting programs are offered at universities, colleges, or private acting schools.
- Membership in a union or guild may be required.

### Employment Outlook

There are numerous types of roles for actors in Nova Scotia, within the film industry and as stage actors. Currently, Nova Scotia is the fourth-largest film production centre

in Canada. The popularity of Nova Scotia as a filming destination has been aided by government-funded tax credits to support and entice the industry to our shores. However, prospects for this industry fluctuate over time and are heavily influenced by the cost-effectiveness of filming here. Such factors as a strong Canadian dollar can dramatically reduce the number of foreign productions in Nova Scotia.

Stage work in Nova Scotia tends to be more time-intensive than film work and pays somewhat less. Stage productions are heavily influenced by the availability of government funds to support the arts and cultural sector.

Many actors who work as professional performers also hold other employment to supplement their income. Both part-time employment and self-employment

are very common for this occupation.

The development of digital industries in Nova Scotia may provide new opportunities for actors, from the voice of video games to cell phones.

Prospects for occupations in this industry are rated as fair in the coming years. However, depending on a number of factors, this could change rather quickly. Retirement in the coming years is expected to create some job openings

### Typical Jobs

Actor  
Comedian  
Drama Teacher

### Related Occupations

Announcers and Other Broadcasters  
Musicians  
Dancers

# Announcers and Other Broadcasters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**160**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Disc jockeys select and introduce music, videos, and other entertainment.

Announcers read news, sports, commercial messages, and weather for radio and television. They may develop their own material or use material prepared by others, and may also host entertainment and information programs for broadcast.

Hosts of radio or television programs introduce and interview guests, and conduct proceedings of programs such as talk shows and game shows.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you must be comfortable expressing ideas and performing before an audience. Creativity and imagination are helpful. Clear speech is very important.

### Employment Requirements

- To work in the field of media, completion of a college radio or television arts program is usually required, as well as practical training such as working at a college radio station or local television cable company.

### Other Considerations

Increased use of automation and centralized production of entertainment segments in the radio broadcasting industry will likely reduce the number of job opportunities in some of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

This is a relatively small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Demand for these occupations relies largely on the strength of Nova Scotia's broadcasting and communications sector, which is expected to remain stable.

The average age of this occupation is approximately 37 years, which is slightly below the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

News Reader  
Weather Reporter  
Talk Show Host  
Sports Announcer  
Disc Jockey

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical  
Engineering Technicians  
and Technologists  
Journalists

# Archivists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**40**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Archivists manage information. They are responsible for processing, safe storage, and retrieval of books, pictures, maps, letters, records, films, videos, etc.

Duties of archivists include the acquisition, appraisal, preservation, arrangement, and description of archival records, and making them accessible for research.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent administrative, research, organizational, writing, and planning skills, as well as intellectual curiosity. You should have supervisory skills and the ability to work with people of all ages, including other staff. A knowledge of computer systems,

literature, and current information sources is also important. Being able to speak and write French would be an asset in some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- Archivists in large institutions require a minimum of a bachelor's degree in library science or history, preferably with a master's degree in archival studies. For smaller institutions, you may only be required to have a bachelor's degree in a related field and/or related work experience.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. The creation of new positions in this field is rare,

and the vast majority of job openings will occur due to attrition and retirement.

In the coming years, few openings will be available in these fields and only applicants with the highest qualifications would be serious candidates for these openings. Nova Scotia is an attractive place for archivists to work because of the quality of our collections: we have some of the oldest records in Canada. There is no educational program for archivists in Nova Scotia. However, some graduates of Dalhousie University's library sciences program may become archivists with on-the-job training.

The management of different forms of media is rapidly changing as technology advances. Archivists

need to have good understanding of this technology and be willing to continually learn and upgrade their skills throughout their careers. The biggest challenge archivists face today is how to preserve and keep accessible electronic documents, websites, CDs and DVDs, etc., for future generations.

### Typical Jobs

Archivist  
Historical Archivist  
Multimedia Archivist

### Related Occupations

Librarians  
Library and Archive Technicians and Assistants

# Artisans, Craftspersons, and Related Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**380**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes those who use manual and artistic skills to design and make handcrafted objects, both functional and decorative.

Artisans and craftspeople, such as glass blowers, potters, and silversmiths, design and create objects using clay, glass, leather, wood, metal, fibre, and other materials to produce items such as dinnerware, stained glass items, leather goods and shoes, jewellery, utensils, furniture, carvings, and sewn and woven items.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need creativity, imagination, and artistic ability. You should be able to visualize a finished piece of work from a sketch or a brief description.

Self-discipline in meeting deadlines and a good business sense are also very important. Computer design and production skills may also be important.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal academic training requirements to work as an artisan or craftspeople. It is strongly recommended, however, that you successfully complete high school. Most skills related to this type of work are acquired on the job. Therefore, it is also recommended that you engage in an apprenticeship program under the supervision of a master craftspeople.
- It is extremely beneficial for anyone wishing to start up a crafts business to have some

basic business training, such as bookkeeping, inventory control, pricing, and marketing.

### Employment Outlook

Most craftspeople and artisans in Nova Scotia are self-employed. Some are employed as instructors. Wholesaling can be difficult for this occupation, depending on the product. International competition for certain products has diminished demand for some occupations in this category and can make it hard for these artists to penetrate distribution channels. Many people in this occupation sell their products directly at markets and festivals. Many products are targeted at tourists to our province; therefore, some work is cyclical in nature, corresponding with the peaks in

tourism. Internationally, there is consumer demand for aboriginal arts and crafts because they are exotic and unique.

### Typical Jobs

Basketweaver  
Glass Blower  
Stringed Instrument Maker  
Silversmith  
Weaver  
Potter

### Related Occupations

Upholsterers, Jewellers, Shoemakers, and Related Trades  
Painters, Sculptors, and Other Visual Artists  
Cabinetmakers



# Athletes, Coaches, Sports Officials, and Recreation Programmers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2280**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**58**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes occupations that administer, oversee, and participate in recreation programs and sports. Athletes participate in competitive sports events on an amateur or professional basis. Coaches prepare and train individual athletes or teams for competitive events. Referees observe and enforce rules and regulations governing sporting events, athletic games, and sports competitions.

Activities of sport/recreation administrators and programmers may include the administration, delivery, and design of programs; arranging advertising; negotiating contracts and sponsorships with businesses; developing and managing programs and sports facilities; and organizing participation in sports events.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be determined, patient, and self-confident. You must be able to organize and plan activities as well as motivate and encourage others to perform at their best. Leadership and decision-making skills may be needed in coaching and training. Both verbal and written communication skills are essential for teaching and instructing. Good physical stamina and an interest in sports and physical fitness are also advised.

## Employment Requirements

- To become an athlete, you must demonstrate your ability in a particular sport. You are required to undergo a rigorous training program, generally under the supervision of a coach. You may also be required to apply for certification with a particular sports federation.
- Coaches for individual and team sports may also be required to complete the National Coaching Certification Program.
- Sports officials are required to obtain certification by and registration with a sport governing agency or commission.
- Certification is required for certain areas of recreation instructing, such as swimming or ski instructing. To work in an administrative capacity in these occupations, you would need a bachelor's degree in recreation administration, sport administration, or physical education, combined with some work experience in a related field.

## Other Considerations

Depending on the occupation, workers may work only part of the year and be unemployed in the fall and winter.

## Employment Outlook

Federal and provincial funding of sports organizations influences employment levels for this occupational group, and funding for athletes and coaches varies across different sports. Because the average age of this workforce tends to be young, turnover for this occupational group is quite high. There is great demand for sports officials and coaches; however, low or no pay means that this is commonly a secondary occupation. The accreditation process that officials must go through can tend to keep some people away from this occupation. For program leaders and instructors in recreation and sport, employment opportunities are good for students in the summer months.

## Typical Jobs

Referee  
Cruise Ship Recreation Director  
Fitness Instructor  
Ski Patrol

## Related Occupations

Physiotherapists  
Recreation and Sports Program Officers and Consultants

# Audio and Video Recording Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**190**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Audio and video recording technicians operate equipment to record, mix, and edit sound, music, and videotape for motion pictures, television and radio programs, videos, recordings, and live events. This equipment may include videotape recording and playback equipment, equipment to generate graphics, animation, credits, or program titles, audio consoles and sound processing equipment, and dubbing machines.

### Skills

To work in this field you need creativity, imagination, and technical skills. Attention to detail and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques are also important. You must be able to communicate your ideas clearly and work well with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a program in recording engineering, audiovisual technology or a related field, or experience as a recording studio assistant, is usually required for employment as a recording technician.
- Recording engineers would be required to obtain further formal training and experience.

### Employment Outlook

Audio and video recording technicians operate equipment to record, mix and edit sound, music and videotape, for motion pictures, television and radio programs, videos, recordings and live events. Work in this occupation tends to be cyclical and demand is dependent on the production schedules of films, television programs and movies of the week. Employment in this industry is often on a project basis and teams are assembled for each production. Many people have a second source of income to support them during slow times.

Due to the prevalence of digital rather than analog recording studios, sound recording technology has become more accessible to non-professionals. However, professional audio technicians will continue to have a market in the production of high-quality recordings.

Demand for this occupation in the coming years is expected to be steady. However, competition for these jobs is strong and excellent qualifications, work experience and contacts in the industry will aid employment prospects.

In general, the sound recording industry in Nova Scotia receives few government subsidies. Employment for this occupation is concentrated in the Halifax area, and self-employment is relatively common. The average age of this occupation is approximately 33 years, which is somewhat lower than the average are for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Audiovisual (AV) Technician  
Radio Technician  
Sound Effects Editor  
Sound Mixer  
Recording Engineer

### Related Occupations

Film and Video Camera Operators  
Broadcast Technicians  
Stage Managers, Stunt  
Coordinators, and Other  
Backstage Occupations

# Broadcast Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**60**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**1**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Broadcast technicians install, set up, test, operate, and repair electronic equipment used to record and transmit live and taped radio and television programs. They may also produce audio and video streaming broadcasts for the Internet.

They work with a wide variety of broadcast software and hardware and monitor the broadcast quality of radio and television programs by regulating the clarity and range of sounds and colours. They make emergency repairs and substitute programs in case of signal failure.

### Skills

In addition to technical skills, this work requires attention to detail, quick response to problems, and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a program in broadcasting or a related field is usually required to work as a broadcast technician.

### Employment Outlook

This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia, and employment is concentrated in Halifax. Overall, employment of broadcast technicians is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations through the year 2010. Self-employment is relatively common in this occupation.

Job growth in radio and television broadcasting may be limited by labour-saving technical advances such as computer-controlled programming and remotely controlled transmitters. Technicians who know how to

install transmitters will be in demand as television stations install digital transmitters. Although most television stations are broadcasting in both analog and digital formats and plan to switch entirely to digital, radio stations are only beginning to broadcast digital signals.

Employment of broadcast and sound engineering technicians in the cable and pay-television portion of the broadcasting industry should grow as the range of services is expanded to provide such products as cable Internet access and video-on-demand.

In addition to employment growth, job openings also will result from the need to replace experienced technicians who leave this field. Some of these workers leave for other jobs that require

knowledge of electronics, such as computer repairer or industrial machinery repairer.

### Typical Jobs

Broadcast Technician  
Master Control Room (MCR) Technician - Broadcasting  
Mobile Broadcast Technician  
Operator  
Broadcast Engineer

### Related Occupations

Film and Video Camera Operators  
Audio and Video Recording Technicians  
Stage Managers, Stunt Coordinators, and Other Backstage Occupations

# Conservators and Curators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**80**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Museum curators plan for the acquisition of museum and gallery artifacts. Curators also research, interpret, organize, and maintain collections for museums and art galleries. Conservators conserve and preserve paintings, photographs, sculptures, and other museum and art gallery artifacts.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent administrative, research, organizational, writing, and planning skills, as well as intellectual curiosity. You should have supervisory skills and the ability to work with people of all ages, including other staff.

A knowledge of computer systems, literature, and current information sources is also important. Being able to speak and write French would be an asset in some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- Conservators require a master's degree in art conservation or completion of a three-year diploma program in conservation technology, and several years of experience in conservation work.
- Curators may require a bachelor's or master's degree in museology (museum studies) or art history, but a degree in a field related to their specific area of work is usually essential.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. In the coming years, few openings will be available in these fields, and only applicants with the highest qualifications will be serious candidates for these openings. Demand for this occupation is heavily influenced by government funding for museums and special exhibits.

### Typical Jobs

Museum Curator  
Conservator - Art Objects  
Art Gallery Curator  
Conservator

### Related Occupations

Public Relations and Communications Officers  
Fashion Designers, Jewellery Designers, and Similar Design Occupations  
Museum Technicians, Interpreters, and Curatorial Assistants

# Dancers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Dancers perform either alone or as part of a group for live audiences or for television or film tapings. They must train and exercise diligently to stay in form, and they must be willing to accept direction as to interpretation and presentation. Many dancers specialize in one or more styles of dance, such as ballet, tap, traditional, or jazz.

Dance teachers may teach young dancers proper technique and artistic interpretation and prepare them for auditions or performances. Other teachers may specialize in the techniques, culture, and symbolism of aboriginal, ethnic, and other traditional dances, or concentrate on teaching recreational dancing to individuals and groups.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be dedicated, motivated, and willing to accept constructive criticism. Talent, creativity, and technical skills are essential. You must be comfortable working with others and performing before an audience. Self-discipline and a good business sense are also helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree or college diploma in dance or graduation from a private dance school may be required.
- If you plan on a professional career in dance, early and intensive training is very important, along with talent, perseverance, and performance experience.

- You may require professional experience as a dancer to become a dance teacher.
- Membership in a guild or union may be required.

### Employment Outlook

This is a largely youthful occupation, and many dancers stop performing by their late thirties. However, some remain in the field as choreographers, dance teachers, or artistic directors. Most dancers begin formal training at an early age (between 5 and 15 years).

Employment opportunities for this occupation will be influenced by public and private funding for the performing arts, consumer preferences, and attrition rates. Some job openings from retirements are projected in the coming years

but this will not provide many jobs, due to the small size of this occupation in Nova Scotia. Part-time employment is common for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Ballet Dancer  
Dance Instructor  
Interpretive Dancer

### Related Occupations

Producers, Directors,  
Choreographers, and Related Occupations

# Editors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**300**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Editors review, evaluate, and edit manuscripts, articles, news reports, and other material for publication or broadcast, and coordinate the activities of writers, journalists, and other staff. Copy editors read and edit copy to be published or broadcast to detect and correct errors in spelling, grammar, and sentence structure.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should be organized, resourceful, and creative. A critical mind, excellent writing ability, and language skills are also necessary. At times, writing requires patience, self-discipline, and perseverance. Editors must be tactful and able to guide and

encourage others. Copy editors require a sharp eye for detail. Good keyboarding skills and word processing skills are a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree and several years' experience in writing, publishing, journalism, or a related field is required to become an editor.
- Employers may require a degree in journalism, English, French, or a related field.
- A degree in a specialist area, such as law or engineering, may be an asset for some positions.

### Other Considerations

Some people in these occupations work irregular hours including evenings and weekends.

### Employment Outlook

Technological change has increased the need for editors with skills in such areas as web-content editing. It can be anticipated that more work will become available on a freelance basis as the practice of outsourcing grows. Editors are now more productive because the Internet promotes the efficient transfer of material to writers, editors and publishers.

### Typical Jobs

Copy Editor  
Script Editor  
Advertising Editor  
Literary Editor  
News Editor

### Related Occupations

Mapping and Related Technicians and Technologists  
Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters  
Information, Correspondence, and Library Clerks  
Writers  
Journalists

# Fashion Designers, Jewellery Designers, and Similar Design Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**160**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes a wide range of design occupations. Theatre designers produce designs for sets, costumes and scenery for film, television, and theatre. Fashion designers create clothing and textiles, jewellery, and other accessories. Exhibit designers design displays and exhibits for museums, stores, and trade shows.

### Skills

To work in this field, a natural ability to draw along with a good sense of creativity and imagination are beneficial. You should have an understanding of artistic principles and be able to visualize a finished piece of work from a sketch or brief description. Computer design and production skills are essential for the commercial occupations in this field. Self-discipline in meeting deadlines and a good business sense are also very important.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in fine arts or visual arts, or a college arts program with specialization in theatre design or clothing design, is usually necessary to become a theatre or fashion creative designer.

### Other Considerations

Many senior practitioners choose self-employment, and manage their own businesses or freelance.

### Employment Outlook

Designers in this group conceptualize and produce designs for film, television, theatre and video productions, garments and textiles, displays and exhibits, and other creative items such as jewelry. Theatre designers are employed by performing arts, broadcasting companies, and festivals. Employment growth is linked to government spending on the arts and cultural sector and can be cyclical, corresponding to tourism in Nova Scotia.

Fashion designers are employed by clothing and textiles companies or may be self-employed. Exhibit designers are employed by museums and retail establishments. Other creative designers in this unit group are employed by manufacturing establishments or may be self-employed. Entrepreneurialism and creative ability as demonstrated in portfolio work will aid employment prospects for these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Set Designer  
Costume Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Museum Exhibit Designer

### Related Occupations

Industrial Designers  
Upholsterers, Jewellers,  
Shoemakers, and Related Trades  
Graphic Designers  
Interior Designers  
Museum Technicians, Interpreters,  
and Curatorial Assistants



# Film and Video Camera Operators

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**110**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Film and video camera operators operate film or video cameras to record news, live events, films, videos, and television broadcasts. They require a thorough technical understanding of camera equipment and film technology. Camera operators often work as part of a film crew, meeting with the director and camera crew members to determine filming sequences, camera movements, and picture composition.

### Skills

To work in this field you need creativity, imagination, and technical skills. Attention to detail and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques are also important.

You must be able to communicate your ideas clearly and work well with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a college program in broadcasting, audio-visual technology or a related field and previous experience as a camera assistant are usually required.
- You may be required to demonstrate your creative and technical proficiency through a portfolio of work and experience.

### Employment Outlook

Currently, Nova Scotia is the fourth-largest film production centre in Canada. The popularity of Nova Scotia as a filming destination has been aided by government-funded

tax credits to support and entice the industry to our shores. However, prospects for this industry fluctuate over time and are heavily influenced by the cost-effectiveness of filming here. Such factors as a strong Canadian dollar can dramatically reduce the number of foreign productions in Nova Scotia. Prospects for occupations in this industry are rated as fair in the coming years. However, depending on a number of factors, this could change rather quickly.

Work in this occupation tends to be cyclical in nature and depends on production schedules. Hiring is done on a project basis with a team being assembled for each production. Employment depends on training, experience and networking.

This is a very small occupation in Nova Scotia and almost all employment opportunities are concentrated in the Halifax area.

### Typical Jobs

Camera Operator  
Electronic News Gathering (ENG)  
Camera Operator  
Television Camera Operator  
Motion Picture Camera Operator

### Related Occupations

Photographers  
Broadcast Technicians  
Audio and Video Recording Technicians

# Graphic Arts Technicians

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Graphic arts technicians assist graphic designers in the technical aspects of bringing a project to fruition. They must be able to interpret the designer's instructions and sketches and then prepare material for press, produce computerized images and drawings, or prepare logos and designs.

Graphic arts technicians can progress to graphic designer positions once they have achieved sufficient training and experience.

### Skills

To work in this field, a natural ability to draw and a good sense of creativity and imagination are beneficial. You should have an understanding of artistic principles and be able to visualize a finished piece of work from a sketch or brief

description. Computer design and production skills are essential for the commercial occupations in this field. Self-discipline in meeting deadlines and a good business sense are also very important.

### Employment Requirements

- A college diploma in commercial or graphic design is required.
- Post-secondary training or experience in multimedia design may be required.
- You must be able to demonstrate your ability and talent by compiling a portfolio of your work.

### Employment Outlook

The importance of the Internet for businesses of all types and sizes has increased employment for web and graphic designers. The value of good design, in all kinds of media, for both public and private organizations will continue to drive demand for this occupation in Nova Scotia. Steady growth in film and video production will continue to create employment for this occupational group. Graphic designers may also be employed as supervisors, project managers, or consultants.

Both self-employment and part-time employment are common for graphic arts technicians.

The average age of this occupation is approximately 38 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Silkscreen Technician  
Graphics Arts Technician  
Computer Graphics Technician  
Animation Painter

### Related Occupations

Clerical Workers, Office Equipment Operators  
Information, Correspondence, and Library Clerks  
Graphic Designers  
Printing Press Operators

# Graphic Designers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1210**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Commercial artists and graphic designers assemble illustrations and text for magazines, films, posters, advertisements, and signs. Activities may include consulting with clients; determining the best way to produce the appropriate visual effect; preparing sketches, photographs, and illustrations; estimating the costs of materials and time required to complete graphic designs and illustrations; and producing the final artwork or plans for production by supplier firms. Digital animators use a combination of computer and artistic techniques to create moving images.

### Skills

To work in this field, a natural ability to draw along with a good sense of creativity and imagination are beneficial. You should have an understanding of artistic principles and be able to visualize a finished piece of work from a sketch or brief description. Computer design and production skills are essential for the commercial occupations in this field. Self-discipline in meeting deadlines and a good business sense are also very important.

### Employment Requirements

- You will require a university degree in visual arts with specialization in graphic design, commercial art, or graphic communications, or a college diploma in graphic arts.
- Experience as a graphic arts technician would be valuable.
- Professional membership in the Society of Graphic Designers of Canada is recommended.

### Other Considerations

Both self-employment and contract work are common in this occupation. Many senior practitioners manage their own businesses or freelance.

### Employment Outlook

The importance of the Internet for businesses of all types and sizes has increased employment for web and graphic designers. The value of good design, in all kinds of media, for both public and private organizations will continue to drive demand for this occupation in Nova Scotia. Steady growth in film and video production will continue to create employment for this occupational group. Graphic designers may also be employed as supervisors, project managers, or consultants.

This occupation has a relatively young workforce with an average age of approximately 36 years. As such, retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Commercial Assistant  
Illustrator  
Multimedia Designer  
Package Designer  
Digital Animator  
Computer Graphics Specialist

### Related Occupations

Painters, Sculptors, and Other  
Visual Artists  
Graphic Arts Technicians  
Interior Designers

# Interior Designers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Interior designers produce designs for interior spaces in residential and commercial buildings. They consult with clients to determine needs; develop detailed space plans; determine and specify furniture requirements; design custom and built-in interior elements; develop decorating plans; and estimate costs and materials required.

### Skills

To work in this field, a good sense of creativity and imagination are beneficial. You should have an understanding of artistic principles and be able to visualize a finished space from a sketch or brief description. Self-discipline in meeting deadlines and a good business sense are also very important.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree or college diploma in interior design or architectural design is usually necessary for employment as an interior designer.
- Registration with the Association of Interior Designers of Nova Scotia is recommended. To become certified, you must have a minimum of three or four years of formal academic training in interior design and three years of related experience. You must also successfully complete the National Council for Interior Design Qualification exams.
- You must build a portfolio of work demonstrating your creative and artistic accomplishments.

### Other Considerations

Interior designers work with computers for drafting, colour matching, and conducting final product visualization. A good understanding of specialized design applications is important for this occupation.

Many senior practitioners choose self-employment; they manage their own businesses or freelance.

### Employment Outlook

Employment in this occupation is largely dependent on construction and renovation activity in the residential, commercial, and institutional real estate sectors. This occupation attracts many talented individuals, and competition is strong for job openings. This is not a large occupational group in Nova Scotia

and, although it is anticipated that there will be a number of retirements in the coming years, the number of job openings will remain small for this profession.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Interior Designer  
Kitchen Designer  
Trade Show Designer  
Retail Space Planner

### Related Occupations

Industrial Designers  
Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks  
Graphic Designers  
Fashion Designers, Jewellery Designers, and Similar Design Occupations

# Journalists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**320**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Journalists research, investigate, interpret, and communicate news and public affairs through newspapers, television, radio, and other media. They may specialize in print or non-print media, in a particular geographic area, or in particular issues such as political affairs or entertainment news.

Experienced reporters may advance to become editors (newspapers and magazines) or producers (television and radio).

### Skills

Journalists should be organized, resourceful, and creative. A critical mind, excellent writing ability, and language skills are also necessary. Keyboarding and word processing skills are a definite asset. Knowledge of French is strongly recommended.

### Employment Requirements

- Journalists generally require a university degree or college diploma in journalism.

### Other Considerations

Some people in these occupations work irregular hours, including evenings and weekends.

### Employment Outlook

Journalism is a diverse occupation and journalists may find employment in a wide variety of areas. For example, they may be employed as reporters, editors, news anchors, interviewers, researchers, producers, online content providers, or freelance writers. Approximately one-third of journalists work part-time, and self-employment is common.

Journalism is a relatively small occupation in Nova Scotia. A high degree of talent and motivation is required as there is unusually strong competition for these jobs.

### Typical Jobs

Investigative Reporter  
News Commentator  
Columnist  
Reporter  
Broadcast Journalist

### Related Occupations

Announcers and Other Broadcasters  
Photographers  
Writers  
Editors

# Librarians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**370**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**20**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Librarians develop, organize, maintain, and promote collections or library materials. There are many different types of libraries, including public, school, university, government, and business libraries. Duties of librarians include classifying and cataloguing library materials; developing systems to access library collections; and providing specialized programs for their users.

### Skills

To work in this field, you need excellent administrative, research, organizational, writing, and planning skills, as well as intellectual curiosity. You should have supervisory skills and the ability to work with people of all ages, including other staff. A knowledge of computer systems, literature, and current information sources is also important. Being able to speak and write French would be an asset in some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- A Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) is usually required to work in the library field, although substantial experience in a library environment coupled with a bachelor's degree may also be appropriate. Although there are no certification requirements, the MLIS degree is preferred for professional qualification as a librarian.
- Teacher-librarians are required to have a bachelor's degree in education and an MLIS. To teach in public schools in Nova Scotia, a Nova Scotia Teacher's Certificate is required.

### Employment Outlook

There are some opportunities for librarians to work in the private sector or to be self-employed. There should be growing opportunities for information and knowledge managers in corporations, consulting firms, and information brokerage firms. Some librarians branch out and find work in other fields, e.g. as archivists, systems analysts, webmasters, consultants, and marketing coordinators.

The work of librarians is rapidly changing with the computerization of libraries and use of the Internet. Excellent computer skills are becoming essential to obtain work in this field.

Job opportunities for this occupation are impacted by government funding for library services. In 2005, regional library funding was increased in Nova Scotia. However, this has not significantly contributed to job growth, and retirements will be a main factor in the creation of job openings for this occupation in the coming years. Because this is a small occupation in Nova Scotia, the number of job openings stemming from retirements will be limited. Most librarians in Nova Scotia work full-time throughout the year, and the vast majority are female.

### Typical Jobs

Bibliographer  
Librarian  
Library Supervisor  
Reference Librarian

### Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counselors,  
and School Librarians



# Library and Archive Technicians and Assistants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**360**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Library technicians help librarians acquire, prepare, and organize material, and assist users in finding materials and information. Some responsibilities of library technicians are also shared by archival technicians, such as assisting the public in finding books and other materials, and cataloguing new materials. Archival technicians also help archivists acquire, preserve, and make available historical records.

## Skills

For this type of work, you should be patient and organized, and have good research skills. Both oral and written communication skills are essential. You must be able to work

unsupervised with library or museum users, and cooperate with co-workers. Good computer skills and knowledge about audiovisual equipment are strongly recommended. A knowledge of literature is also an asset.

## Employment Requirements

- A university degree in the social sciences or completion of a library technician program is usually required, although formal on-the-job training in this field or a related area may suffice to work as a library technician/assistant.
- There are no formal education requirements to work as a library assistant; however, work experience in this field and a bachelor's degree are preferred.

## Employment Outlook

This is a small occupational group in Nova Scotia, and it is anticipated that the majority of job openings will occur due to attrition and retirement. Job opportunities for this occupation are impacted by government funding for library services and funding for school libraries. Contract, short-term, and part-time work are common. There is a particular need for library assistants in rural areas of Nova Scotia but, because full-time positions are rare, recruitment is difficult.

The management of different forms of media is rapidly changing as technology advances. Library and archive technicians and assistants need to have a good understanding of this technology and be willing to

continually learn and upgrade their skills throughout their careers. Excellent computer skills are becoming essential to obtain work in this field.

## Typical Jobs

Archival Technician  
Library Technician

## Related Occupations

Information, Correspondence, and Library Clerks  
Librarians

# Museum Technicians, Interpreters, and Curatorial Assistants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Museum registrars and cataloguers classify and assign registration numbers to artifacts and specimens, work with electronic databases, and supervise inventory control. Museum technicians perform a variety of functions such as constructing, designing, and installing exhibits and displays; preserving, maintaining and storing museum/gallery collections; and framing art work. Museum technicians may also specialize in specific types of collections. Conservation technicians specialize in restoring and preserving artifacts, photographs, and documents.

## Skills

For this type of work, you should be patient and organized, and have good research skills. Both oral and written communication skills are essential. You must be able to work unsupervised with museum users, and cooperate with co-workers. Good computer skills and knowledge about audiovisual equipment are strongly recommended.

## Employment Requirements

- Registrars and cataloguers may be required to obtain a university degree in a field related to museum and gallery work.
- For those who want to work in other technical occupations

related to museums and galleries, completion of a college program in museum studies or conservation technology, or other technical or on-the-job training program related to the work, is required.

## Employment Outlook

Employment in these occupations is often on a seasonal basis, parallel with the tourism industry. Although there will be some job openings as a result of retirements in the coming years, the number of openings will be minimal due to the small size of this occupation in Nova Scotia. Opportunities for this occupation are spread across Nova Scotia.

## Typical Jobs

Conservation Technician - Museums and Art Galleries  
Museum Registrar  
Museum Technician  
Historical Interpreter

## Related Occupations

Conservators and Curators  
Library and Archive Technicians and Assistants  
Tour and Travel Guides



# Musicians and Singers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
990

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
39

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$16.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Musicians and vocalists interpret music using their knowledge of voice production, musicianship, melody, and harmony. They sing and play musical arrangements as soloists or as part of an instrumental band or vocal group for audiences or for recording purposes. Vocalists and other musicians usually specialize in specific types of music such as classical, jazz, opera, or rock.

### Skills

To work as a professional singer or musician, you should be dedicated, motivated, and willing to accept constructive criticism. Talent, creativity, and technical skills are essential. You must be comfortable working with others and performing before an audience. Self-discipline and a good business sense are also helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Early and intensive training is very important. Accomplishment in these fields will depend on your talent, perseverance, and performance experience. Formal auditions are held for acceptance into orchestras, bands, dance companies, theatre companies, and the like.
- Formal musical training, either through a diploma or university degree program, or through private instruction, is usually required.
- A university degree is usually required to work as a professional classical musician or singer, or to play in an orchestra.
- You may be required to join a guild or union.

### Employment Outlook

Funding for the arts and culture sector and the prevalence of music festivals across Nova Scotia create employment for this occupation. Increasingly, it is recognized that music contributes to the Nova Scotian economy and promotes tourism. This may result in increased funding for the cultural and entertainment sector in the coming years.

Musicians and singers are predominantly self-employed, and the majority work part-time. It is projected that there will be some job openings due to retirements.

As turnouts for Canadian Idol try-outs attest, this is a very popular occupation. Because of this, entrepreneurship and a degree of self-promotion will aid employment prospects. One thing is for certain, Nova Scotia has produced many successful, talented, and internationally recognized musicians and singers.

### Typical Jobs

Guitar Player  
Music Teacher  
Opera Singer  
Rock Singer  
Drummer

### Related Occupations

University Professors and Assistants  
School Teachers, School Counsellors,  
and School Librarians

# Painters, Sculptors, and Other Visual Artists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
490

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
15

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$12.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Painters create drawings, paintings, and original artwork using oils, pastels, watercolour, charcoal, ink, or other materials. Sculptors create sculptures, statues, and other artwork by carving, shaping, and fabricating clay, stone, metal, or wood.

Art instructors teach their students how to develop their technical skills and express themselves artistically through drawing, sculpting, painting, and other means of visual expression.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be dedicated, motivated, and willing to accept constructive criticism. Talent, creativity, and technical skills are essential. You must be comfortable working with others. Self-discipline and a good business sense are also helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Visual artists, such as sculptors and painters, require creative ability and must develop a portfolio of work. It is also important to learn the safe use of materials, tools, and equipment. Formal training is available through art programs provided through universities and colleges.
- Post-secondary training in fine arts may be required for employment.
- Art instructors and teachers may be required to have a degree or diploma in a field related to art.

### Other Considerations

Most people in these occupations are self-employed. Many work part-time, or full-time but for only part of the year. Many factors can affect an individual's earnings in these occupations. Therefore, incomes will likely vary greatly throughout the year and from one year to the next. Many people find it necessary to work at other occupations to supplement their income. Some painters, sculptors, and visual artists are employed as teachers.

### Employment Outlook

Because of the entrepreneurial nature of these occupations, job postings are uncommon and many people create their own opportunities.

Nova Scotia has many organizations that support people in this occupational group; in Halifax alone there are the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, the artist-run Khyber Centre for the Arts, the Centre for Art Tapes, the Nova Scotia Designer Crafts Council, Visual Arts Nova Scotia, and many other cultural organizations that support the professional development of Nova Scotia's painters, sculptors, and visual artists. Tourism to our province and government funding to the arts and culture sector create opportunities for these occupations.

The demand for visual arts stems from individual collectors, private enterprises, not-for-profit galleries and museums, and foreign buyers. Because of strong competition from visual artists internationally and low volumes of production, this can be a difficult market to penetrate.

### Typical Jobs

Sculptor  
Art Instructor  
Silkscreen Artist  
Artist

### Related Occupations

Artisans, Craftspersons, and Related Occupations  
University Professors and Assistants  
School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
College and Other Vocational Instructors  
Graphic Designers

# Photographers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**240**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**9**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Photographers operate cameras to record people, events, scenes, materials, products, and other subjects on film.

Activities may include studying requirements of a particular assignment and deciding on the type of camera, film, lighting, and background accessories needed; determining picture composition and making technical adjustments to equipment to photograph the subject; processing film; and retouching negatives. Specialization can be in areas such as scientific photography or photojournalism.

### Skills

Photographers need creativity, imagination, and artistic talent. Attention to detail and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques are also important. You must be able to react quickly in some circumstances and be very patient in others in order to get a good shot. Substantial business knowledge is required if you wish to be self-employed and work on a project-by-project basis.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal academic requirements to work in this field, although completion of a bachelor's degree in visual arts with a specialization in

photography, or on-the-job training supervised by a photographer, is recommended.

### Other Considerations

Self-employment is common for photographers. The services they offer may be provided in a studio or on location. Earnings will depend upon the type and quality of work and will generally improve over time as the photographer's work gains recognition. Working conditions vary considerably, from regular hours in comfortable offices to irregular hours doing fieldwork. It is also common for photography to be a secondary occupation or a hobby.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation appears to be limited, with few employment opportunities and a limited number of employers. Technological advances which simplify the process of taking and developing photographs may negatively impact demand for this occupation in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Portrait Photographer  
Photojournalist  
Forensic Photographer  
Commercial Photographer  
Aerial Photographer

### Related Occupations

Film and Video Camera Operators

# Projectionists, Lighting Assistants, and Related Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**140**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These workers provide backstage support for broadcast, film, and theatre productions. Camera crane operators and lighting assistants help technical workers in broadcasting and motion picture production. They move, assemble and set up equipment and electrical fixtures. Grips move and set up stage fixtures and props. Projectionists use projection equipment to show films in theatres. Script assistants prepare call sheets, time scenes, and prompt cast members. Dressers assist cast members with wardrobe changes and care for costumes. Other assistants in this category build sets and handle props.

### Skills

These jobs all require a certain level of technical skill. Attention to detail and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques are also important. You must be able to take direction, communicate your ideas clearly, and work well with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Most of these occupations require completion of high school and a period of on-the-job training. Courses in broadcasting or theatre arts could be helpful.
- Projectionists in Nova Scotia are required to complete a licensed apprenticeship program. In some cases, extensive on-the-job training may substitute for formal academic requirements.

### Other Considerations

The majority of people in this occupation are employed full-time but for only part of the year. Many people in this occupational group have a second source of income to support them during slow periods.

### Employment Outlook

Persons in this occupational group are employed by television and radio stations and networks, recording studios, motion picture and video production companies, and theatre and stage companies. Demand for these occupations is driven in part by the attractiveness of Nova Scotia as a location for film and television production and by government funding for the arts and cultural sectors.

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia, and although some employment growth is expected in this occupation in the coming years, the number of job openings will be small.

### Typical Jobs

Broadcasting Production Assistant  
Camera and Crane Operator  
Set Builder  
Script Assistant  
Dresser

### Related Occupations

Film and Video Camera Operators  
Broadcast Technicians

# Public Relations and Communications Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1060**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**42**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes specialists in public relations and communications who develop and implement communication strategies and information programs, publicize activities and events, and maintain media relations.

Activities include researching and editing material for internal and external audiences; preparing reports, speeches, brochures, press releases, or newsletters; developing workshops, meetings, and other events for publicity, fundraising, and information purposes; arranging interviews and news conferences; and acting as spokesperson for an organization. Development of presentations for film, compact disc, videotape, and slide shows is increasingly required in this occupation.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be organized and resourceful. You must have excellent oral and written communication skills. You need to have good interpersonal skills and be able to work as part of a team. Ability to meet deadlines and work under pressure is essential. Computer skills, word processing skills, and knowledge of French are strongly recommended.

### Employment Requirements

- A university degree or diploma in public relations, communications, journalism, or a related discipline is usually required to work in this field.
- Ability in French or other language is a definite asset.
- Practitioners in public relations may require an APR (Accredited in Public Relations) designation.

### Employment Outlook

Strong analytical skills and good grasp of technology are assets for this profession, and specialized knowledge in a particular field may aid employment prospects.

The need for good public relations in an increasingly competitive business environment should spur demand for these professionals. The provincial and federal governments are large employers of these occupations.

There has been a trend among public relations companies to reduce the number of public relations staff. As a result, contract or part-time work is expected to continue to grow. The average age of this occupation is 37 years, which is slightly less than the average age for all occupations. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Talent Agent  
Fundraising Consultant  
Publicity Agent  
Press Secretary  
Media Relations Officer

### Related Occupations

Advertising Management and  
Promotion Consultants  
Announcers and Other Broadcasters

# Stage Managers, Stunt Coordinators, and Other Backstage Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These are the people who work behind the scenes to design and build sets, make sure that cameras are in the right place, that performers get their cues and are dressed and made up to play their roles, and that props are there and in the right places. Gaffers and lighting technicians set up lights and scenery. Key grips supervise the handling of lights, sets, backdrops, and scenery. Stunt coordinators and special effects technicians design and coordinate special effects like fires, explosions, and car crashes.

### Skills

To work in this field you need creativity, imagination, and technical skills. Attention to detail and the ability to improvise with equipment and techniques are also important. You must be able to communicate your ideas clearly and work well with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Most of these occupations require completion of a post-secondary program in broadcasting, theatre arts, or a related field and several years of experience in a related entry-level job in motion pictures, television, or theatre.
- Floor managers require a portfolio of work.
- Make-up artists are required to demonstrate their creativity through a portfolio of work and may be required to have completed a training program.
- Gaffers, lighting technicians, key grips, and other stage technicians will require completion of a college program or other specialized training in technical production for theatre.
- Some of these occupations may require union membership.

### Other Considerations

Work in this occupation is cyclical and follows production schedules; many people in these occupations have a second source of income to support them through slow periods. Self-employment is relatively common in this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation depends on the number of film, television, and movie-of-the-week productions in Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia's film industry has been doing well in the past few years, aided by a weak Canadian dollar and government tax incentives to entice production companies to our shores.

The continued attractiveness of Nova Scotia as a location for non-Canadian productions will depend on a number of factors and there is a great deal of international competition for these productions. A continued strong Canadian currency could negatively impact this industry. However, our more stable domestic film and television industry, and regular programs such as *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and the *Trailer Park Boys*, will continue to create employment for these occupations.

The average age of this occupation is approximately 36 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Costumier  
Gaffer  
Make-up Artist  
Program Coordinator - Broadcasting  
Special Effects Technician  
Lighting Technician

### Related Occupations

Film and Video Camera Operators  
Broadcasting Technicians  
Audio and Video Recording Technicians



# Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**280**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Translators relate written material from one language to another. They may translate correspondence, reports, and legal documents.

Terminologists conduct research required to translate and interpret technical, professional, and scientific vocabulary and material.

Interpreters translate oral communication, such as speeches, proceedings, and dialogue, from one language to another, or from sign language to a spoken language or vice versa.

People in these occupations specialize in one or more particular languages, such as French, Russian, or Spanish, and they may also specialize in a particular technical area such as law, medicine, or insurance.

## Skills

To become a translator, you must have a thorough knowledge of at least two languages and excellent writing skills. Translators usually translate into their native language.

To work as an interpreter you should have excellent oral expression, a good memory, and the ability to concentrate well. You must also be able to think quickly and clearly. As an ASL/English interpreter, you should have physical stamina and manual dexterity.

## Employment Requirements

- In addition to fluency in another language, a university degree or a college diploma in translation or a related discipline is required, and specialization in interpretation, translation, and terminology at the master's level may also be required. Significant training and experience in these areas may replace any formal academic requirements to work in this field.
- Sign language interpreters are required to obtain a college or other training program in sign language interpretation. After completing a program, you can take national certification examinations from the Association of Visual Language Interpreters.
- A translator's or interpreter's certificate issued by the Canadian Translators and Interpreters Council may be required. Generally, fluency in three languages is required for translators and interpreters employed by international organizations.

## Other Considerations

Job opportunities may grow as Nova Scotian businesses expand their marketing efforts to include foreign customers and require translators to communicate.

## Employment Outlook

Translators and terminologists should have a sound knowledge of computerized tools such as terminology banks, lexicographic databases, and desktop publishing tools. Because interpreters are often employed at conferences, meetings and official gatherings, this occupation may require travel.

Employment for this occupational group is best in the Halifax area, although there are some instances of work through electronic mediums. There will continue to be a need for translators and interpreters in government to translate between Canada's two official languages. There will be some job openings in the coming years due to retirement.

## Typical Jobs

Foreign Languages Interpreter  
Literary Translator  
American Sign Language (ASL)/  
English Interpreter  
Court Interpreter  
Terminologist

## Related Occupations

College and Other Vocational  
Instructors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**550**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**20**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Writers plan, research, and write books, scripts, plays, essays, speeches, manuals, specifications, and other articles for publication or presentation. For example, novelists, playwrights, script writers, and poets conceive and write novels, plays, scripts, and poetry. They may do research to establish factual content and to obtain other necessary information.

### Skills

You should be organized, resourceful, and creative. A critical mind, excellent writing ability, and language skills are also necessary. At times, writing requires patience, self-discipline, and perseverance. Strong keyboarding and word processing skills are a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Although there are no formal academic/training requirements to become a novelist, an undergraduate education in liberal arts can be an asset in developing your skills.
- Creative writing programs may be offered by universities or community colleges.
- Technical writers usually require a university degree in the area of specialization, such as computer science or engineering.
- Copywriters usually require a university degree or college diploma in areas such as English, French, and marketing.
- It is important to develop a portfolio of work to demonstrate your talent and ability.
- Membership in a guild or union may be required.

### Other Considerations

Both part-time employment and self-employment are relatively common for this occupation. Some people in these occupations work irregular hours, including evenings and weekends.

### Employment Outlook

Technology is changing the way many writers work. Written material is now easily transferred between writers, editors, and publishers electronically, and the Internet continues to change the way that research is conducted. Modems allow the rapid transfer of material between writers, editors, and publishers.

Some employment growth for writers, due to an expansion of specialized publications and the development of e-publishing, is expected to continue. There will be some job growth in Nova Scotia due to retirements in the coming years.

Whether you aspire to be a novelist, a non-fiction writer, or a journalist, excellent writing skills are highly marketable and employment can be found in a diverse set of fields and industries.

### Typical Jobs

Novelist  
Playwright  
Poet  
Technical Writer  
Copywriter

### Related Occupations

Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters  
Public Relations and Communications Officers  
Editors  
Journalists

Occupations  
in Social Science,  
Education, Government  
Service, and Religion



# Business Development Officers, and Marketing Researchers and Consultants

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**810**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**33**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Business development officers and marketing researchers and consultants conduct research, develop policies, and manage programs designed to stimulate business activity, investment, or tourism. For example, economic development officers design and administer programs to encourage and support the development of new industries in rural areas. Tourism industry consultants research and recommend marketing strategies to attract more tourists to an area.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

## Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in economics, commerce, business administration, or public administration is required.
- You may be required to become a certified economic developer (Ec.D.).

## Employment Outlook

Major employers for this occupation are government departments and agencies, marketing firms, and business associations. Self-employment in this occupation is also common. Replacement needs due to retirements will result in some job openings in Nova Scotia in the coming years, particularly in government departments and agencies.

The combination of declining and aging populations in rural areas of Nova Scotia is expected to decrease our tax base and concurrently increase a need for certain public services, notably health care. An important part of addressing these challenges will be the development of industrial and commercial business investment, particularly in rural areas of Nova Scotia.

Government funding to address these issues would increase demand for business development officers and marketing researchers and consultants.

## Typical Jobs

Community Economic Development Officer  
Business Development Officer  
Marketing Consultant  
Tourism Development Officer  
Market Researcher

## Related Occupations

Urban and Land Use Planners  
Financial and Investment Analysts  
Financial Planners and Other Financial Officers  
Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

# College and Other Vocational Instructors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2300**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**118**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes instructors who teach courses at community colleges, agricultural colleges, and technical institutes, as well as trainers who are employed by companies and governments to teach internal training and development courses.

Some instructors teach people who have graduated or left school for occupations that do not require a college degree, such as welder, dental hygienist, farmer, or cosmetologist. College and other vocational instructors usually specialize in particular fields of study such as visual arts or broadcasting.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be patient, imaginative, objective, and resourceful. Leadership skills and the ability to motivate students are important. You must be able to communicate ideas in a clear, concise, and interesting way. Planning and organizational skills are also necessary. Instructors must be knowledgeable about their subjects and keep informed about new material or methods of teaching.

## Employment Requirements

- Academic and training requirements vary according to the specific occupation; however, in general, instructors need experience in their field, a licence or certificate in fields where these usually are required for full professional status, and either teaching experience or training in instructional methods.
- To be approved by the Department of Education to work in a registered private career college, an instructor usually requires: a bachelor's degree in the subject to be taught, along with one year of work experience in the occupation to be taught; a certificate or diploma from a community college, trade school, or private career college; or a Bachelor of Education degree, along with two years of work experience in the occupation to be taught; or a minimum of five years of work experience in the occupation to be taught.

## Other Considerations

About half of the workers in these occupations work full-time and for the full year. Individuals in these fields generally work regular hours, although some evening work may be required.

## Employment Outlook

Employment growth is expected to remain stable for these occupations because of employers' ongoing need for a highly trained work force, particularly in new technology. Demand for skills certification in the trades, projected increases in enrolment, and increased government spending on education will spur demand for these occupations. A significant number of job openings due to attrition is expected.

There are planned expansions for campuses of the Nova Scotia Community College, which may lead to a growth in programming and increased enrolment. Funding is also on the rise for continuing education programs across the province. Nova Scotia's aging population and a demand for skilled workers has led to increasing enrolments in adult learning programs and in Nova Scotia's Apprenticeship Program. Many college or other vocational instructors are employed through part-time or short-term positions. This allows institutions to provide flexibility with their curriculum and adapt to fluctuations in student enrolment.

## Typical Jobs

Community College Teacher  
Commercial Art Instructor  
Company Trainer  
Computer Training Instructor  
Hairdressing Teacher

## Related Occupations

University Professors and Assistants  
School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians



# Community and Social Workers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2880**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**105**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Community and social service workers assess and investigate eligibility for social benefits; advise and aid recipients of social assistance and pensions; provide crisis intervention and emergency shelter services; implement community and social service programs under the supervision of social workers or health care professionals; and maintain contact with other social service agencies involved with clients to provide information and obtain feedback on clients' progress.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in the welfare of others and a desire to help them. Patience, maturity, and good listening skills are important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership, reasoning and decision-making skills are also necessary. An understanding of human nature is also important.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a community college diploma or university degree or diploma in social work, counselling, psychology, social services, or education is usually required to gain employment in these professional occupations.
- In many cases, previous work experience or volunteer work in a social service environment, high school completion, and community college courses in human services are needed to work as support staff to human service workers.
- A Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) or a Master of Social Work (MSW) and membership in the Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers may be required for employment in some of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

Most employment for these workers is found in the areas of health care and social services. Government funding for these areas directly impacts employment opportunities for this profession. An increasing demand for accountability within the social services sector is resulting in higher educational requirements (post-secondary education at minimum).

In Nova Scotia, there are particular opportunities for community and social services workers to do project work. Also, hospitals, not-for-profit organizations, out-reach centres, agencies, and homes dealing with a specific segment of the population are creating employment opportunities. Part-time work is relatively common for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Mental Health Worker  
Crisis Intervention Worker  
Group Home Worker  
Addictions Worker  
Child and Youth Worker  
Women's Shelter Supervisor

### Related Occupations

Athletes, Coaches, Sports Officials, and Recreation Programmers  
School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
Employment Counsellors  
Social Workers  
Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors  
Probation and Parole Officers

# Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$23.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes individuals who provide consultation and advice to government and business related to economic behaviour and patterns. They conduct research; analyze data and information; provide forecasts on market potential and economic trends; and develop reports and provide advice in a wide variety of areas related to economics. They may advise governments and government agencies on policies to enhance economic activities, and conduct research on market conditions to set sales and pricing for goods and services produced by businesses.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

## Employment Requirements

- A master's degree in economics or in a related discipline such as business administration or statistics is the usual requirement. A master's degree coupled with a strong background in economic theory, mathematics, statistics, and econometrics provides the basis for acquiring any specialty within the economics field.
- Some positions may require a Ph.D. in economics.

## Employment Outlook

Economists and economic policy researchers and analysts are generally employed by governments, private industry, universities and consulting firms. In Nova Scotia, the small number of employers for this occupation is limiting job opportunities. Employment opportunities would be far greater in Ottawa for federal positions, or in a large urban centre such as Toronto or Vancouver due to the number of consulting firms and universities providing employment.

Those skilled in quantitative techniques and their application to economic modeling and forecasting should have the best job opportunities. Economists with Ph.D. degrees should be in particular demand by governments, universities, and consulting firms.

The average age of this occupational group is approximately 40 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings. The majority of positions are concentrated in the Halifax area and public administration is the most common field of employment.

## Typical Jobs

Economist  
Economic Advisor  
Energy Economist  
International Trade Economist  
Tax Economist

## Related Occupations

University Professors and Assistants  
Financial and Investment Analysts  
Business Development Officers and Marketing Researchers and Consultants  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

# Education Policy Researchers and Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**480**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**18**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes individuals who provide consultation and advice related to elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. Activities may include conducting research; developing policies and administering programs; evaluating curriculum and recommending improvements; and providing consulting services to teachers and other education professionals. These individuals may also develop the content, structure, and objectives of new programs, develop teaching materials and other resources, or administer specialized testing and assessment programs.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- The minimum requirement is a bachelor's degree in education or in a discipline such as social science or business administration.
- A master's degree in education may be required.

- Additional specialized training may be required for some positions.
- Several years' experience as a school teacher is usually required.
- A valid provincial teacher's certificate is usually required for employment with a provincial education ministry.

### Other Considerations

Part-time employment is relatively common for this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

Education policy and research officers are typically employed by government departments, school boards, and research institutes, or are self-employed. Demand for this occupation is impacted by

government funding for educational programs.

It is anticipated that there will be some job openings for this occupation due to retirements.

### Typical Jobs

Education Consultant  
Co-ordinator, Special Education  
Curriculum Developer  
Language Assessor  
Education Policy Officer

### Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
College and Other Vocational Instructors  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

# Employment Counsellors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**370**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.50 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Employment counsellors interview clients to obtain employment history, educational background, and career goals; identify barriers to employment; advise employers on human resources; assess need for assistance such as financial aid or vocational training; and monitor labour market information for clients regarding job openings, entry and skill requirements, and other occupational information.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have an interest in the welfare of others and a desire to help them. Patience, maturity, and good listening skills are important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership, reasoning and decision-making skills are also necessary. An understanding of human nature is also important.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a community college diploma or university degree or diploma in social work, counselling, psychology, social services, or education is usually required to gain employment in these professional occupations.

- In some cases, a high school diploma and several years of experience related to counselling or a helping profession may be acceptable as an alternative to formal education.

### Employment Outlook

Much of the work of employment counselors is supported directly or indirectly through programs designed to help unemployed or underemployed persons find work. This occupation has a high degree of instability because government funding for these programs and contracts frequently changes.

The expanding number of job boards and online self-assessment tools could negatively impact growth of this profession in the future. The average age of this occupation is

approximately 43 years, which is significantly higher than the average age for all occupations in Nova Scotia. Retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Employment Counsellor  
Career Counsellor  
Relocation Counsellor

### Related Occupations

Personnel and Recruitment Officers  
Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

# Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1610**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**93**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Counsellors assist individuals and groups to identify, understand, and overcome personal, vocational/educational, and social problems, and to achieve personal objectives. Activities may include interviewing and counselling clients; preparing case histories and assessing problems; developing and implementing counselling and intervention programs; and evaluating the effectiveness of counselling programs and clients' progress in solving their problems.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should have an interest in the social welfare of others and a desire to help them. Patience, maturity, good listening skills, and an understanding of human nature are important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership, reasoning, and decision-making skills are also necessary.

## Employment Requirements

- You generally need at least a master's degree in counselling, mental health or a related social science such as education, psychology, or social work to gain employment as a clinical counsellor, e.g. as a marriage or family counsellor.
- Certification is not currently required to practise in Nova Scotia; however, certification is available through the Canadian Counselling Association.
- Certain areas of counselling, e.g. rehabilitation or addictions counselling, may require only an undergraduate degree or diploma in a social science.

## Employment Outlook

There is a trend towards the professionalization of counselors in Nova Scotia. In order to practise in the province, counselors must belong to a professional organization and they require liability insurance. At the Counsellor Training Institute in Halifax, enrolment has increased and there is a planned program expansion.

Most counselors in the province are self-employed. Others work for agencies and organizations in the not-for-profit sector or for the federal or provincial government. Many counselors, particularly in the areas of addictions, child and youth, rehabilitation and clinical counseling, are affected by government programs. Therefore, fluctuations in funding to social services affect the stability of this occupation.

Awareness about a lack of counselors in certain areas, such as youth counseling and gambling and addictions counseling, has been raised by the Department of Community Services and other organizations. Advocacy to address this deficit may increase funding for counselor services and increase demand for these occupations.

## Typical Jobs

Addictions Counsellor  
Family Counsellor  
Child and Youth Counsellor  
Marriage Counsellor  
Rehabilitation Counsellor

## Related Occupations

Employment Counsellors  
Social Workers

# Health Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**490**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**27**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Health policy researchers provide consultation and advice to government and business related to health policy and program development, health promotion, regulations, standards, and financing. They conduct research; collect and analyze statistical data; and develop and monitor policies and programs. Consultants research and produce reports, and provide other consulting services in a wide variety of areas related to health policy. Program officers administer programs related to health care and may be involved in the development and design of these projects and programs. These occupations often involve communicating with the media and the public, as well as providing information and advice to healthcare professionals, politicians, and government officials.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to cooperate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree is a minimum requirement for most occupations in this group. Appropriate fields of study are health science, public administration, recreation administration, hospital administration, or a social science.
- A graduate degree in health, social science, or an administrative discipline may be required.
- Many positions require several years of experience as a healthcare professional or as a community or social service worker.

### Employment Outlook

Health policy researchers, consultants, and program officers conduct research, produce reports, and administer healthcare policies and programs. They are employed by government departments and agencies, consulting firms, universities, research institutes, hospitals, and the not-for-profit sector.

In national public opinion polls, a vast majority of Canadians say that a strong, publicly funded national healthcare system is important to them. However, there has been a shift in views and values about the importance of collective provision of services and there may be increasing amounts of private service healthcare delivery across Canada. These issues, as well as the stresses that will be placed on Canada's healthcare system in the coming years as the baby boomers age, will require the employment of health policy researchers, consultants, and program officers to find innovative solutions to healthcare issues.

The number of employers for this occupation in Nova Scotia is limited, but some job openings due to attrition are expected in the coming years. Both part-time employment and self-employment are relatively common in this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Health Promotion Specialist  
Healthcare Planner  
Consultant, Health Care  
Health Care Planner  
Research Analyst, Health Policy

### Related Occupations

Community and Social Service  
Workers  
Education Policy Researchers and  
Officers  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants,  
and Program Officers



# Historians, Sociologists, Archeologists, and Other Social Scientists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**110**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes a wide range of researchers and consultants in the social sciences.

Anthropologists study the origin, development, and functioning of human societies and cultures.

Archeologists study artifacts to reconstruct the economic, social, political, and economic lives of past societies.

Geographers study and analyze the distribution and interaction of physical, biological, cultural, and social patterns.

Historians conduct research into phases and aspects of past human activities.

Linguists study the origin, structure, and development of languages.

Political scientists study political institutions, political movements, and individual political behaviour.

Psychometricians develop and administer psychological tests. Sociologists study human societies and their social patterns.

Criminologists study crime and criminals.

Gerontologists study the process and problems of aging.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to cooperate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

## Employment Requirements

- A master's or doctoral degree in the specific discipline is usually required.

## Employment Outlook

Projected retirements in government agencies and departments may create job openings in the coming years, particularly for political scientists and historians, who are often employed by the public sector in the areas of policy and research.

Geographers will have opportunities to advise government, real estate developers, and utilities and telecommunications firms on infrastructure development as Halifax Regional Municipality continues to expand. Geographers may also increasingly be employed on environmental matters, such as where to build a landfill or how to preserve wetland habitats. Some employment may be created due to the remediation of the Sydney Tar Ponds. As the use of Geographical Information System (GIS) technology expands, geographers may find employment opportunities in non-traditional areas such as emergency assistance.

Anthropologists and sociologists will find opportunities in policy research for consulting firms, not-for-profit organizations, and social service agencies. Other employment areas include marketing, advertising, and human resources. Many of these opportunities will be in a large urban area such as Toronto, or in Ottawa through policy work with the federal government.

Although retirements are projected in the coming years for social science professionals, the number of job openings created by these retirements will be very small due to the small size of this occupation in Nova Scotia.

## Typical Jobs

Geographer  
Political Scientist  
Sociologist  
Criminologist  
Gerontologist

## Related Occupations

Mathematicians, Statisticians, and Actuaries  
University Professors and Assistants  
Psychologists  
Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**410**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.00 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Instructors and teachers of disabled persons may teach reading and writing braille and sign language, or may assist individuals with physical or mental disabilities to develop life skills. Training officers can specialize in particular areas.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should be patient, imaginative, objective, and resourceful. Leadership skills and the ability to motivate students are important. You must be able to communicate ideas in a clear, concise, and interesting way. Planning and organizational skills are also necessary. Instructors must be knowledgeable about their subjects and keep informed of new material or methods of teaching.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in education or a related field, such as psychology or social work, may be required for employment of instructors and teachers of persons with disabilities. Completion of appropriate training programs in rehabilitation or special education may also be required.
- Teachers who work with disabled persons in a public school would be required to obtain a Nova Scotia Teacher's Certificate. Additional training beyond the academic requirement of a B.Ed. may be required to specialize in special education.

### Other Considerations

Both part-time and self-employment are relatively common for this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is heavily influenced by government funding for programs and services catering to disabled persons. In the 2005 budget, the province of Nova Scotia committed an additional \$1 million to create new programs to support people with disabilities. This may create some employment opportunities for this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Rehabilitation Instructor  
Special Education Teacher  
American Sign Language (ASL)  
Instructor  
Job Coach for Persons with  
Disabilities  
Instructor, Orientation and Mobility

### Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counsellors,  
and School Librarians  
Teacher Assistants  
Early Childhood Educators and  
Assistants

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1820**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**44**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$38.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Lawyers act both as advocates and as advisors in society. As advocates, they represent one of the opposing parties in criminal and civil trials by presenting evidence that supports their clients in court. As advisors, they advise clients on legal matters; counsel their clients as to their legal rights and obligations; and suggest particular courses of action in business and personal matters. In general, lawyers plead cases or conduct prosecutions in courts of law; negotiate contracts with other parties on behalf of their clients; and draw up legal documents such as contracts and wills. Lawyers may specialize in specific areas of law such as criminal law, corporate law, commercial law, real estate law, family and estate law, and labour law.

Judges preside in a courtroom and must be very familiar with all aspects of the law because they apply the law. They oversee the legal process that, in courts of law, resolves civil disputes and determines guilt in criminal cases according to federal and provincial laws and those of local jurisdictions. They preside over cases related to virtually every aspect of society, from traffic offences to questions of disconnecting life support equipment for terminally ill persons. They must ensure that trials and hearings are conducted fairly and in a manner that safeguards the legal rights of all parties involved. They listen to the evidence presented by both sides; read and study any information submitted to them before, during, and after the court hearing; sometimes conduct their own independent research to be satisfied with the interpretation of the applicable law relating to that subject matter; and then give a decision which is consistent with previous decisions of the Courts of Nova Scotia or the Supreme Court of Canada.

## Skills

To work in this field you should enjoy challenge and competition. Office-style work requires a high degree of accuracy and concentration. Excellent oral communication skills are important for courtroom-style work. You must be convincing, concise, able to think quickly under pressure, and able to express your ideas clearly. You should have a strong command of language and the ability to think logically and analytically. Patience, tact, and an understanding of human nature would be helpful in dealing with the public.

## Employment Requirements

- To become a lawyer in Nova Scotia, you must successfully complete a bachelor's degree in law (LL.B.). After graduating with an LL.B., you must complete a full year of articling with a law firm. Within that year, you must complete a seven-week course during which you would learn a variety of lawyering skills. At the end of that year, you must pass the bar exam.
- To become a judge, you must have extensive experience as a lawyer or as a professor of law. Ten or more years of experience at the bar would qualify you to become a judge.

## Other Considerations

Self-employment is common for lawyers. Many lawyers work fairly regular hours, but this is usually confined to lawyers who are employed by government offices or corporations. Lawyers in private practice, for the most part, work longer and fairly irregular hours. Most of the work of lawyers is done in offices or law libraries. Judges tend to work fairly regular business hours.

## Employment Outlook

Employment growth for judges is expected to be limited. Appointments of judges at federal, provincial, and territorial levels usually only occur when there is a vacancy created due to retirement. Extensive experience in law is required.

Employment of lawyers is expected to remain stable in the coming years. Demand for lawyers is linked to population growth and economic conditions, among other factors.

Law firms, in Nova Scotia and nationwide, are increasingly providing services across provinces and internationally, which somewhat negates the impact of local economic conditions on the demand for lawyers' services. The high cost of legal services may in some cases lead to increased use of dispute settlement mediators. The lawyer's consulting function is gaining in importance, especially with the advent of multidisciplinary firms offering professional services to companies and organizations.

There is a lack of articling opportunities in Nova Scotia, and a particular shortage of lawyers in rural areas. Because of this, job openings are expected to be higher in rural areas. The average age of this occupational group is approximately 44 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

## Typical Jobs

General Counsel  
Family Court Judge  
Criminal Lawyer  
Corporate Counsel  
Supreme Court Justice

## Related Occupations

Paralegals  
Court Officers and Justices of the Peace

# Ministers of Religion

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1050**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**42**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Individuals in these occupations administer the rites of a religious faith or denomination. They provide motivation, leadership, religious training, and spiritual or moral guidance, and perform other functions associated with the practice of a religion. Responsibilities may include preparing and conducting public worship services; administering sacraments; supervising and conducting religious teaching; administering the financial operation of a religious community; participating in humanitarian endeavours; and performing other related duties. They perform these duties in churches, synagogues, temples, or other places of worship. Support and counselling services are also provided at healthcare facilities, community-based centres, pastoral counselling centres, and correctional centres.

### Skills

To work in this field you should be sensitive, reliable, discreet, and interested in serving the needs of others. Patience, self-discipline, and emotional stability are also important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership and organizational skills are necessary. An understanding of human nature and the behavioural sciences is essential for counselling.

### Employment Requirements

- Educational requirements vary depending on the religion. A term of practical experience with a senior minister is usually required for this group. In general, it is recommended that you have a Bachelor of Arts, Theology, or Religious Studies and/or a Master of Theology, Divinity, or Religious Studies.
- The Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education is an interfaith organization that certifies pastoral specialists in pastoral care or pastoral counselling. In addition to ordination and the minimum educational requirement, pastoral and professional experience and 2000 hours of on-the-job training are required for certification.

### Other Considerations

People in these occupations may work long and irregular hours in administrative, educational, and community service activities.

### Employment Outlook

Individuals considering a career in the clergy are choosing not only a career but also a way of life. A vocation will be the most important factor in deciding to become a minister of religion.

The vast majority of job openings in this occupation in the coming years will be due to retirement. Ministers of religion who are willing to work in small or rural congregations will have better prospects. While the majority of minister positions are within congregations, there are some employment opportunities in the areas of teaching, social action, chaplaincy, or administration.

### Typical Jobs

Rabbi  
Priest  
Chaplain  
Imam  
Pastor

### Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
Religious Workers  
Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

# Natural and Applied Science Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**470**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**21**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes those who provide consultation and advice to government and business related to natural and applied sciences. They conduct research; develop policies and administer programs; and provide consulting services in a wide variety of areas.

Science policy researchers focus on areas related to transportation, communications, natural resources, agriculture, the environment, energy, land use, and other scientific fields.

Ergonomists focus on the physical, social, and psychological interrelationships between people, their equipment, and the environment.

Occupational and industrial hygienists focus on physical and chemical hazards and stresses in the workplace.

Patent agents represent inventors and companies in dealing with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office to obtain grants of patents and provide advice on patent law.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

## Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in a related scientific or technical occupation is a minimum requirement for most occupations in this group. Appropriate fields of study are health science, public administration, recreation administration, hospital administration, or a social science.
- A master's degree in a related scientific discipline may be required.
- Ergonomists may be certified through the Canadian Ergonomics Certification Board.
- Occupational hygienists may require certification by the Canadian Registration Board of Occupational Hygienists.
- Patent agents require 12 months of related work experience in the patent field and successful completion of the examinations set by the Commissioner of Patents.

## Employment Outlook

Natural and applied science and research officers are employed by the different levels of government, educational institutions, research organizations, consulting firms, and environmental and conservation organizations, or they may be self-employed. Demand for this occupation is heavily impacted by government funding for research in the natural and applied sciences, as well as economic and regulatory trends.

There has been a trend across Canada towards the strengthening of environmental law and increased funding for environmental initiatives. This may provide opportunities for researchers such as energy policy analysts, environmental impact analysts, and environmental issues lobbyists. Similarly, researchers in the areas of natural resource and energy policy may be in demand as there is a growing interest in alternative energy resources.

Over the next few years, most job growth for this occupation in Nova Scotia will be due to attrition.

## Typical Jobs

Patent Agent  
Environmental Issues Lobbyist  
Transportation Safety Analyst  
Energy Policy Analyst  
Fisheries Analyst

## Related Occupations

Biologists and Related Scientists  
Civil Engineers  
Conservation and Fishery Officers  
Health Policy Researchers,  
Consultants, and Program Officers



# Paralegals

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**860**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**24**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

People who work in this group of occupations assist members of the legal profession or act as officers of the court.

Legal assistants and paralegals in law firms assist lawyers in preparing legal documents, maintaining records, interviewing clients and witnesses, and conducting research.

Independent paralegals provide certain legal services to the public, such as representing clients in small claims court, and advising clients and taking legal action on landlord and tenant matters, traffic violations, and name changes.

Notaries public prepare promissory notes, wills, mortgages, and other legal documents, while trademark agents research and prepare trademark applications.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be interested in the legal profession. Accuracy and the ability to understand and follow instructions are important. You must be tactful and have good interpersonal skills for dealing with clients. Excellent oral and written communication skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- It is recommended that you supplement on-the-job experience as a paralegal or legal assistant with a certificate or diploma in office/business administration, a bachelor's degree in law, or a diploma in a paralegal program. In-house training from a law firm or other legal establishment may supplement or, in some cases, replace academic requirements.
- Notaries public require a provincial licence, which may be obtained through the Department of Justice.

To become a notary public, you must also be an insured and practising member of the Bar.

- Trademark agents require two years of in-house training under the supervision of a registered trademark agent. This is supplemented by a tutorial program organized by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office, with successful completion of the required exam.

### Other Considerations

Part-time employment is relatively common for this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

As qualifications, responsibilities, and regulations are established for the paralegal profession, their roles and responsibilities will be expanded. Technological advances will create new roles for paralegals in assisting attorneys to conduct more cost-efficient research and produce more

specialized presentations. Also, work conducted interprovincially and internationally may become more common with technological advances and expand employment opportunities in Nova Scotia.

The average age for paralegals in Nova Scotia is approximately 36 years, which is slightly below the average age for all occupations in the province. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Notary Public  
Trademark Agent  
Law Clerk  
Legal Assistant  
Legal Researcher

### Related Occupations

Judges and Lawyers  
Legal Secretaries

# Probation and Parole Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**140**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Probation officers monitor the behaviour of criminal offenders serving probation, while parole officers monitor offenders who have been conditionally released into the community on parole, and they assist these individuals with their return to the community. Classification officers assess inmates and develop rehabilitation programs for inmates.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should have an interest in the social welfare of others and a desire to help them. Patience, maturity, good listening skills, and an understanding of

human nature are important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership, reasoning, and decision-making skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in a social science discipline such as social work, criminology, psychology, or sociology is required.
- A master's degree in an appropriate social discipline may be required.

### Other Considerations

On-the-job training is ongoing for probation officers, and advancement

courses and employee assistance programs are offered for people who wish to upgrade their skills. Corrections Canada has a volunteer program that begins every fall for students who wish to gain a better understanding of the work of probation officers.

### Employment Outlook

Though both probation and parole officers are part of the criminal justice system, probation officers are employed by Corrections Canada whereas parole officers are employed by the provincial Department of Justice.

Although some employment opportunities due to attrition are expected in the coming years, there will be few job openings due to the small size of this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Case Manager - Corrections  
Youth Worker - Corrections  
Classification Officer,  
Correctional Institution

### Related Occupations

Community and Social Service Workers  
Social Workers  
Correctional Service Officers

# Psychologists

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**510**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**28**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Psychologists examine the behaviour of children and adults; diagnose psychological and emotional disorders; and provide consultation and therapy. They counsel individuals, groups, and organizations to improve physical and mental health and to achieve better personal, social, and work-related development and adjustment. They teach and apply psychological theory and principles regarding behaviour and mental processes such as learning, memory, perception, and human development. They may also design, conduct, and communicate the results of psychological research.

Clinical psychologists interview patients; give diagnostic tests; provide individual, family and group psychotherapy; and design and implement programs to modify behaviour.

Counselling psychologists provide treatment to improve physical and mental health.

School psychologists work with students, teachers, parents, and administrators to resolve students' learning and behaviour problems.

Experimental psychologists investigate aspects of human and animal activity to understand and explain behaviour. Industrial/organizational psychologists focus on personnel selection, job satisfaction, and workplace performance.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be mature, patient, and interested in helping others. You must have excellent oral and written communication skills. Good listening skills, an understanding of human behaviour, and awareness of diversities are also important.

## Employment Requirements

- You must be registered with the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology as a candidate or psychologist to be eligible to practise in Nova Scotia.
- To register as a psychologist, you need a master's degree in psychology and six years of supervised experience, or a Ph.D. in psychology and two years of supervised experience. Initially you can be accepted on the Candidate Register; you are then eligible to practise psychology, but you must meet certain conditions, including completing supervised work experience and written and oral examinations, before you are transferred to the Register of Psychologists.
- University faculty and researchers working in other settings may work in psychology departments without being registered, although they may not use the title 'psychologist'.

## Other Considerations

There has been a noticeable increase in psychologists working in the private sector in the past few years. Self-employment is common for this occupation.

## Employment Outlook

Demand for psychologists is neither seasonal nor very sensitive to overall economic conditions. Cutbacks in health and social services may negatively impact some professionals in this field of work. However, some hospitals will refer patients to private clinics. A lack of practicum opportunities for psychology students in some areas may impact the supply of registered psychologists.

## Typical Jobs

Clinical Psychologist  
Counselling Psychologist  
Experimental Psychologist  
Industrial/Organizational Psychologist  
School Psychologist

## Related Occupations

University Professors and Assistants  
Specialist Physicians  
Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

# Recreation and Sports Program Officers and Consultants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**320**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**14**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Kinesiologists conduct fitness tests and assessments and design, develop, and deliver fitness counselling and exercise programs.

Fitness consultants provide advice on the design and development of fitness programs and activities.

Recreation consultants advise on the design and development of recreation programs and activities for communities, organizations, and institutions.

Sports consultants provide expert advice to sports associations and other organizations on development and administration of sports programs. Sports program supervisors develop, plan, and coordinate sports programs.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate effectively and inspire and motivate clients.

### Employment Requirements

- To work as a sport/recreation/fitness consultant or a sports program supervisor, you would need a bachelor's degree in recreation administration, sport administration, kinesiology, or physical education combined with some work experience in a related field, or a diploma in recreation, sports, or fitness programs combined with some experience in a related field.
- To work as a kinesiologist, you would need a degree in kinesiology, at the bachelor's or master's level.
- Recreation and sports program supervisors require experience as program leaders or instructors in recreation or sport. Additional certification, such as in fitness or in lifesaving, may also be required.
- You may require certification by the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology as a Certified Fitness Consultant to work as a fitness consultant.

### Other Considerations

Full-time work is typical in these occupations; however, it is often seasonal so many recreation and sports officers work for only part of each year, usually during the summer months.

### Employment Outlook

Some job growth may occur as our aging population increases the numbers of seniors' homes across the province and, correspondingly, a need for recreational programming. Also, public concern over childhood obesity rates in Nova Scotia may increase program funding for youth and create employment growth for recreation and sports program officers and consultants.

Due to the young age of this occupation, there are very few openings due to retirement.

### Typical Jobs

Kinesiologist  
Fitness Consultant  
Sport/Recreation Administrator  
Fitness Policy Analyst  
Exercise Physiologist

### Related Occupations

Athletes, Coaches, Sports Officials,  
and Recreation Programmers  
School Teachers, School Counsellors,  
and School Librarians

# Religious Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
80

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
3

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$13.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Occupations within this category include brothers, nuns, monks, religious education workers, pastoral specialists, and others who provide support to ministers of religion. Their activities include assisting at services of public worship and religious rites; providing religious education, spiritual guidance, and moral support to members of a religious community; and administering programs providing food, clothing, and shelter.

### Skills

To work in this field you should be sensitive, reliable, discreet, and interested in serving the needs of others. Patience, self-discipline, and emotional stability are also important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership and organizational skills are necessary. An understanding of human nature and the behavioural sciences is essential for counselling.

### Employment Requirements

- Depending on the particular occupation and religion, requirements can range from a high school diploma to a university undergraduate degree, and there may be other employment requirements.
- The Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education is an interfaith organization that certifies pastoral specialists in pastoral care or pastoral counselling. In addition to ordination and the minimum educational requirement, pastoral and professional experience and 2,000 hours of on-the-job training are required for certification.

### Other Considerations

People in these occupations may work long and irregular hours in administrative, educational, and community service activities.

### Employment Outlook

Individuals considering a career as a religious worker are choosing not only a career but also a way of life. A vocation will be the most important factor in deciding to pursue this occupation. The vast majority of job openings in this occupation will be due to retirement in the coming years. However, the number of job openings will reflect the relatively small size of this occupational group. Some of the positions in this occupational grouping may not be full-time, and some may be pursued on a volunteer basis.

### Typical Jobs

Cantor  
Salvation Army Field Worker  
Deacon  
Brother, Religion  
Nun

### Related Occupations

Ministers of Religion  
Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

# School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**12930**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**721**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$28.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes teachers and counsellors in elementary and secondary schools.

Teachers prepare subject material for presentation according to an approved curriculum; assign and correct homework; evaluate progress of students; and participate in staff meetings, educational conferences, and professional development workshops.

School counsellors provide group and individual counselling for students regarding educational, career and life planning, personal, and social issues; consult with teachers and parents regarding various issues and concerns; and administer and interpret standardized intelligence, aptitude, and interest tests.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be patient, imaginative, objective, and resourceful. Leadership skills and the ability to motivate students are important. You must be able to communicate ideas in a clear, concise, and interesting way. Planning and organizational skills are also necessary. Energy and stamina are often needed, as a teacher's or school counsellor's workday involves more than just school hours. Teachers must be knowledgeable about their subjects and keep informed of new material or methods of teaching.

## Employment Requirements

- To teach in public schools in Nova Scotia, a Nova Scotia Teacher's Certificate is required. Under current standards, a Nova Scotia Teacher's Certificate requires a minimum of four years of post-secondary training, including the award of an approved bachelor's degree from a recognized university and the completion of an approved teacher education program.
- This is most often accomplished by the completion of a bachelor's degree in education (B.Ed.), which must be preceded by a bachelor's degree in arts, science, physical education, or equivalent.
- School counsellors are required to have regular teacher certification and, in addition, must have completed graduate courses in counselling.
- Additional training beyond the academic requirement of a B.Ed. may be required to specialize in special education.

## Employment Outlook

All parts of Nova Scotia are experiencing declining student enrolments, which will affect the number of opportunities for secondary school teachers, counselors, and librarians. Enrolment decline will be higher in rural areas than in urban ones. Countering this trend, a large number of retirements is expected for secondary school teachers in the next few years, and this will be the main factor contributing to job openings for this occupation. There is a particular demand for teaching expertise in French, mathematics, fine arts, science, and technology.

For school counselors, demand will increase if more funding is allocated for career development. For librarians, there has been a trend across Canada towards the deterioration of library resources and a move from full-time to part-time librarian employment. This has impacted the number of jobs available in this profession. Also, the roles of school librarians have changed as they increasingly also serve as IT resource persons.

## Typical Jobs

Teacher  
Guidance Counsellor  
French Immersion Teacher -  
Elementary School  
Teacher, High School

## Related Occupations

Psychologists  
College and Other Vocational  
Instructors  
Instructors and Teachers of Disabled  
Persons



# Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**530**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**21**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Social policy researchers provide consultation and advice to government and business related to social policy and program development, health promotion, regulations, standards, and financing. They conduct research; interpret demographic, social, and economic studies; and develop and monitor legislation, policies, and programs.

Home economists focus on issues related to consumer affairs and the selection and proper use of food products, textiles and other goods.

Housing policy analysts research, implement, and administer housing policy and programs. International aid and development project officers specialize in the research, development, and implementation of international aid and development programs.

Social survey researchers study issues related to employment, immigration, corrections, housing, labour, and family services.

Social services planners develop new social programs and evaluate, coordinate, and develop awareness of existing programs.

## Skills

To work in these fields, you should be organized, resourceful, and able to co-operate with others in a team. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. You will need an interest in research and familiarity with computers. Advanced computer and technical skills for data manipulation and statistical analysis may be required in some positions.

## Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in a social science or related discipline, or in business administration, is generally required.
- A master's degree in a social science or related discipline, or in business administration, is a requirement for some positions.
- Home economists require a degree in home economics, human ecology, nutrition and food science, or family and consumer studies.

## Employment Outlook

Social policy researchers, consultants, and program officers work in a wide variety of areas. They are employed by government departments and agencies, industry, hospitals, educational institutions, consulting establishments, professional associations, research institutes, non-government organizations, and international organizations, or they may be self-employed. Most people in this occupation (56%) work for municipal, provincial, or federal government.

Many of the jobs in these occupations rely upon government funding. Therefore, changes in government spending levels will affect job opportunities for policy and program officers.

Due to Nova Scotia's demographic changes and other such issues, social policy researchers will be challenged in the coming years to find solutions to a wide range of public concerns, such as how to maintain the quality of health care and education in the province despite a shrinking tax base. Employment prospects for this occupation are rated as good.

## Typical Jobs

Human Rights Officer  
Home Economist  
Housing Policy Analyst  
International Aid Officer  
International Development Officer  
Social Services Planner

## Related Occupations

Community and Social Service Workers  
Health Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers  
Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts  
Business Development Officers, and Marketing Researchers, and Consultants  
Social Workers

# Social Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1320**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**70**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$25.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Social workers help children, adults, families, and groups overcome problems in their daily lives; provide counselling, therapy and referral to other social services; and evaluate child development and the adequacy of child care.

### Skills

To work in these fields, you should have an interest in the social welfare of others and a desire to help them. Patience, maturity, good listening skills, and an understanding of human nature are important. You must be able to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Leadership, reasoning, and decision-making skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- You require at least a bachelor's degree in social work to practise as a social worker.
- Positions in a variety of areas are available with a bachelor of social work degree; however, a master's degree in social work is usually necessary for supervisory, administrative, research, and mental health positions.
- In Nova Scotia, social workers must be registered with the Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for social workers are tied to government funding for health and social service programs. Employment prospects will be best for individuals with advanced degrees in social work and experience in such fields as geriatrics, alcohol and substance abuse, health, mental health, palliative care, and child welfare.

As Nova Scotia's population ages, social workers may be employed in home healthcare services. Industry experts in the field expect a growing number of opportunities in this field to arise from contract and part-time work.

The average age of social workers is approximately 42 years, which is somewhat higher than the average age of all occupations in Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Psychiatric Social Worker  
Social Work Supervisor  
Mental Health Social Worker  
Child Protection Worker

### Related Occupations

Community and Social Service Workers  
Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

# University Professors and Assistants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**3620**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**114**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$28.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

University professors teach courses to undergraduate and graduate students. They study and meet with colleagues to keep up with developments in their field.

University professors conduct research by experimenting, collecting and analyzing data, and examining original documents, literature, and other source material. From this, they develop hypotheses, arrive at conclusions, and publish their findings in academic journals and books. As well, some university professors are hired on a course-by-course basis only to teach.

Teaching and research assistants assist university professors in lecturing, hosting seminars, and research activities.

## Skills

To work in this field, you should be intellectual, inquisitive, and analytical, and have a strong desire to pursue and pass on knowledge. You must be able to communicate clearly and concisely in both oral and written forms, as university faculty are expected to publish articles regularly as well as lecture. The ability to carry out and analyze research is also important. Strong planning and leadership skills are essential. You must be able to inspire confidence and motivate students to learn. As well, you must be a self-starter, as universities are decentralized institutions in which to work.

## Employment Requirements

- A Ph.D. in a specialized field is generally required for employment as a university professor. You might be able to gain employment with a master's degree in a few disciplines for which a doctoral degree is not available. Those who have completed a Ph.D. program and substantially completed their thesis research might also obtain employment in some of the highest-demand fields. In the profession you would generally begin as an instructor or an assistant professor with the possibility of promotion, depending on experience, quality of teaching, and published research reports.
- Teaching and research assistants are usually students enrolled in bachelor's or master's programs.

## Other Considerations

University faculty generally have flexible work schedules; they may work staggered hours and teach classes in the evening.

## Employment Outlook

Post-secondary educational institutions are the major employers of persons holding Ph.D. degrees. Therefore, demand for these occupations is largely influenced by student enrolment levels, spending on education, retirement rates, and economic trends.

Labour market conditions are better for university professors than for research assistants, due to the number of faculty retirements anticipated in the coming years. Mass faculty retirements is a trend which can be seen in universities across Canada and the United States. However, in an effort to reduce expenditures, some university departments, colleges, and faculties are replacing tenure-track positions with term and sessional appointments.

Employment opportunities for university professors and assistants are anticipated to be above average in fields where the greatest amount of job growth is expected in the coming years, e.g. business, health specialties, and computer and biological sciences. Most university teaching and research assistants are employed on a part-time basis.

## Typical Jobs

Graduate Assistant  
Instructor  
Professor  
Research Assistant, University

## Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
College and Other Vocational Instructors



Occupations  
Unique to  
Primary Industry





# Agriculture and Horticulture Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**2830**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**43**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Agriculture and Horticulture workers are involved with planting and cultivation, and raising livestock.

General farm workers plant, fertilize, cultivate, and harvest crops; tend livestock and poultry; prepare produce for market; and clean stables, barns, barnyards, and pens.

Nursery and greenhouse workers prepare soil; plant bulbs, seeds, and cuttings; spray trees, shrubs, flowers, and plants; regulate greenhouse and outdoor irrigation systems; prepare trees, shrubs, flowers, and plants for sale; and provide information to customers.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should enjoy working outdoors. You should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor. Good communication and interpersonal skills may be necessary for working with the public.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no specific education or training requirements for general farm workers; however, college certificates or other specialized courses related to farming, such as farm equipment mechanics, agricultural welding, and pesticide application, would be beneficial. Basic farm knowledge, however, is usually required for employment.
- Forest nursery and greenhouse workers usually require high school completion and the completion of college courses in horticulture or a related field, although on-the-job training is provided.

### Employment Outlook

It can be difficult to forecast employment trends in the agricultural industry, because there may be great fluctuations in grain or livestock prices and changing climate conditions which dramatically reduce or increase demand in this sector. Early in this decade, reduced world grain prices and BSE created a downturn in the Canadian agricultural industry.

Sectors that are not supply-managed, such as apples or beef and hog farms, can be more threatened by price fluctuations because they do not sell directly to consumers. In the Annapolis Valley, some major challenges facing the agricultural sector are over-regulation, labour shortages, water contamination and lack of supply, increased municipal taxation, and poor farm structure.

In general, employment in the agricultural sector is expected to decline over the medium and long term due to international and provincial competition. The relatively small size of farms in Nova Scotia limits the pricing power of this industry.

### Typical Jobs

Greenhouse Worker  
Forest Nursery Worker  
Farm Machinery Operator  
Farm Worker

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Farmers and Farm Managers  
Farm Supervisors, Horse Trainers, and Other Specialized Livestock Workers  
Nursery and Greenhouse Operators and Managers

# Aquaculture Operators and Managers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**110**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Aquaculture operators and managers operate facilities that cultivate fish, shellfish or marine plants for commercial sale.

They identify requirements of the species and oversee site preparation for species cultivation; coordinate selection and maintenance of brood stock; monitor environment; and operate cultivating and harvesting equipment. They also collect and record growth and production data; maintain financial records and establish market strategies; scuba dive to inspect sea farm operations; and design and construct pens and floating stations.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should enjoy working around water and marine life. You need an aptitude for administrative work and project management. Effective

communication skills are important. Computer skills may be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is usually required, plus completion of a college program in aquaculture or a related field. Several years of experience in aquaculture operations may substitute for academic requirements.
- Aquaculture operators and managers are generally required to have several years of experience in the area of operation or management. A commercial and/or experimental lease and/or licence is required for self-employed aquaculture operators and managers. For more information, you should contact the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### Other Considerations

The majority of people in these occupations work for part of each year. When working, most are employed full-time with one-quarter working more than 50 hours per week.

### Employment Outlook

Although Nova Scotia's coastal waters support 400 aquaculture sites, fewer than 20% of farms account for 80% of production. The sector faces several challenges, such as natural limitations due to water temperature and water quality; technological and knowledge gaps in cultivating more diverse species; and a challenging regulatory regime.

Aquaculture is still in the developmental stages in Nova Scotia, and this is reflected in economic data that show growth but also wide swings in production over the years. Since 1995, aquaculture in Nova

Scotia has achieved a five-fold increase in the value of production. Employment fluctuates with production; it was at its peak in 2000 and then dropped significantly in 2002. About 25-30% of aquaculture workers are full-time employees, with the remaining workers being part-time or seasonal. Some employment growth due to retirements and attrition is expected in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Fish Hatchery Manager  
Finfish Farm Operator  
Shellfish Farm Manager  
Mussel Grower  
Oyster Grower

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Biological Technicians and Technologists

# Farm Supervisors, Horse Trainers, and Other Specialized Livestock Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**200**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Farm supervisors oversee the work of general farm workers and harvesting labourers, and perform general farm duties. Specialized livestock workers carry out or supervise feeding, health, and breeding programs on dairy, beef, sheep, poultry, equine, and hog farms.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy working outdoors. Supervisory and communication skills are essential. You must be willing to try new processes and methods. The ability to adapt to constantly

changing technologies is important for more efficient production. You must also be observant, innovative, and resourceful.

### Employment Requirements

- Experience in the occupation supervised is generally required. Farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers, such as a poultry farm foreperson, may be required to obtain a college certificate or other specialized training in agriculture or livestock husbandry.

### Other Considerations

Employment in this occupational group can be highly seasonal.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers who work with cattle has been negatively affected by the BSE crisis, increased feed costs, and a decline in the number of livestock operations in Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Farm Supervisor  
Hog Operator Supervisor  
Cattle Herder  
Shepherd  
Poultry Farm Foreperson

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Agriculture and Horticulture Workers  
Farmers and Farm Managers  
Agricultural Services Contractors and Managers

# Farmers and Farm Managers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
2390

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
85

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

People in these occupations own or operate farms. They plan farm operations; purchase equipment and supplies; operate farm machinery; and at times hire, train, and supervise workers.

Many types of farming are seasonal in nature and every farm specializes in one or more areas, such as dairy, poultry, swine, beef, horses, sheep, fruit, vegetable, wheat, and other grain crops.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be interested in farming and enjoy working outdoors. Physical stamina, patience, perseverance, and excellent observation skills are needed. You should be willing to try new processes and farming methods. The ability to adapt to constantly changing technologies is important for more efficient production. You must also be innovative and have good planning and problem-solving abilities. Mechanical aptitude is valuable.

### Employment Requirements

- Extensive farming experience, obtained as a farmer, farm supervisor, or specialized livestock worker or by working on a family farm, is usually required.
- Completion of an agricultural diploma or degree and courses in business management would be beneficial. In some cases, a diploma in agriculture may be required.

### Other Considerations

Self-employment is the most common working arrangement. Over half of the people in this occupation work more than 50 hours per week. Because most of these people rely on the agriculture industry for their livelihood, job prospects and earnings are likely to vary from year to year. Although many farm operators and managers on crop farms work from sunup to sundown during the planting and harvesting seasons, they often work full-time on the farm only six to seven months a year, and many have second jobs off the farm.

### Employment Outlook

It can be difficult to forecast employment trends in the agricultural industry, because there may be great fluctuations in grain or livestock prices and changing climatic conditions which dramatically reduce or increase demand in this sector. Early in this decade, reduced world grain prices and BSE created a downturn in the Canadian agricultural industry. Sectors that are not supply-managed, such as apples or beef and hog farms, can be more threatened by price fluctuations because they do not sell directly to consumers. In the Annapolis Valley some major challenges facing the agricultural sector are over-regulation; labour shortages; water contamination and lack of supply; increased municipal taxation; and poor farm structure.

Changes in the farming industry are raising the skill levels necessary for this occupational group. Farmers and farm managers are increasingly required to have training in management, human resources, farm technology, marketing, communications, and financial skills. Increasing adoption of computerized systems will require farm managers to continually upgrade their skills.

In general, employment in the agricultural sector is expected to decline over the medium and long term due to international and provincial competition. The relatively small size of farms in Nova Scotia limits the pricing power of this industry. Most growth in this occupational group will be in the agricultural industry sector. The main factor contributing to job openings for this occupation will be the vast number of retirements projected in the coming years. The trend towards consolidation of farms will increase demand for farm labourers while decreasing job opportunities for farm managers. Employment in this occupation is highly seasonal.

### Typical Jobs

Potato Farmer  
Dairy Farmer  
Apple Grower  
Farm Manager  
Hog Breeder

### Related Occupations

Agriculture and Horticulture Workers  
Farm Supervisors, Horse Trainers  
and Other Specialized  
Livestock Workers  
Nursery and Greenhouse Operators  
and Managers

# Fishing Vessel Deckhands, Trappers, and Hunters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1410**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**21**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group of occupations is concerned with fishing support activities, hunting and trapping wild animals for food and pelts, and killing unwanted predators.

Among other activities, trappers catch designated animals for bounty or other control programs. They also trap live animals to sell, and maintain and repair trapping equipment.

Hunters skin dead animals for pelts; treat, pack, and transport pelts to processing plants or to public auctions; and maintain hunting equipment.

Fishing vessel deckhands prepare nets and lines; clean, sort, and pack fish in ice; repair nets, splice ropes, and maintain fishing gear; clean deck surfaces and fish holds; and handle mooring lines during docking.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy working outdoors and being physically active. Good eyesight and health are important. You may be exposed to extreme weather conditions and varying climates. You must be alert, patient, and observant. Some jobs involve irregular or long hours and may be seasonal.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal education requirements for occupations in this group. Fishing vessel deckhands, hunters, and trappers are required to have the appropriate licences. A first aid certificate is also required. Training for most of these occupations is provided on the job, under the supervision of experienced workers.
- Inland fishing licenses are issued by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Commercial fishing licenses are issued by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Training in Marine Emergency Duties (MED) is required. You should contact these departments for more detailed information.
- To purchase a hunting licence or to be in possession of a firearm in a game habitat, you must have a Nova Scotia Firearm Hunting Certificate or a Nova Scotia Bowhunters Hunting Certificate, issued by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
- Hunting and trapping licences are issued by DNR. Hunting licences are also available at many sporting goods stores in Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

Most workers actively fish for only part of each year. As well, work in these occupations is seasonal where employment peaks in the summer months. An individual's earnings will depend upon a number of factors such as the type of boat and equipment used, the species sought, the allotted quota and the market price for the catch.

### Employment Outlook

Severe reductions in the availability of certain types of fish, mainly groundfish such as cod, have caused employment levels to drop significantly in recent years. Although conditions are expected to improve, job prospects are likely to remain limited in the future.

Almost all fishing vessel deckhands are employed in the commercial fishing industry and employment growth for these workers is closely linked to industry growth, which has seen a resurgence in the past few years. Some employment opportunities due to retirements are anticipated in the coming years. Fishing vessel deckhands may advance to watchkeeper or mate positions with additional training. They may also acquire an entry license and a boat and become skippers.

Trappers and hunters comprise a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia, and no employment growth is anticipated in the coming years. Trapping and hunting in Nova Scotia is largely a recreational activity.

### Typical Jobs

Fishing Vessel Deckhand  
Fishing Vessel Netminder  
Fur Trapper  
Game Trapper  
Hunter

### Related Occupations

Ship's Captain and Other Deck Officers  
Fishing Vessel Masters, Skippers, and Fishermen/women  
Outdoor Sport and Recreation Guides

# Fishing Vessel Masters, Skippers, and Fishermen/women

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**5000**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**134**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Workers in this group of occupations manage and operate fishing vessels to catch fish and other marine life. For example, activities include determining areas for fishing; plotting courses and computing navigational positions using compasses, charts, and tables; steering vessels and using electronic fishing aids; and recording fishing progress, crew activities, and sea and weather conditions in the ship's log.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you need good eyesight and health. Physical strength may be necessary. You may be exposed to extreme weather conditions and varying climates. You must also be willing to travel for long periods at a time. To work as an officer, you should be self-disciplined and have strong leadership abilities.

### Employment Requirements

- Becoming a fishing officer requires at least one to two years of experience as a fishing vessel deckhand or crew member.
- Captains are required to have one year of service as officer in charge of the watch.
- A Fishing Master's Certificate of Competency from Transport Canada is required for all fishing masters and officers. There are four levels of competency. Several years of experience as a fishing vessel crew member or helper and a Level I or II fishing master class certificate are usually necessary to become a fishing vessel skipper.
- A commercial fishing licence issued by Fisheries and Oceans Canada is required, as are licences for each species of fish pursued.

### Other Considerations

Most workers in these occupations actively fish for only part of each year. As well, work in these occupations is seasonal with employment peaking in the summer months. When fishing, most work for more than 50 hours per week. An individual's earnings will depend upon a number of factors, such as the type of boat and equipment used, the species sought, the allotted quota, and the market price for the catch.

### Employment Outlook

Limited-entry licensing, seasonal limits, quotas, and weather determine the duration of employment for these occupations, and work is highly seasonal. The increased abundance of highly valued species and improved markets, coupled with stability in the number of vessels, has resulted in a substantial increase in average gross revenue for fishing operations.

Due to the number of variables that influence the fishing industry in Nova Scotia, anticipating employment growth can be difficult. Self-employment is common for these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Lobster Fisher  
Inshore Fisher  
Fishing Vessel Captain  
Fishing Vessel Deck Officer  
Trawler Captain

### Related Occupations

Ship's Captain and Other Deck Officers  
Fishing Vessel Deckhands, Trappers and Hunters



# Labourers in Primary Industry

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2550**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**53**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Labourers in primary industry include many general labouring occupations that do not require a high level of formal training but do require a high level of strength and physical stamina.

These workers sort, load, and pack materials; operate and maintain machinery and equipment; and assist tradespersons.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Although there are few formal education requirements for workers in these occupations, completion of high school and related industry courses are recommended.
- Some workers in these occupations may be required to obtain certification in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG).

### Other Considerations

Most workers in these occupations work for part of the year and typically earn less than half the yearly income of employees who work for the whole year. Although some labouring jobs are seasonal, others are not. Wages will vary according to the specific type of work performed, and annual incomes of many workers in

these occupations are relatively low. Labourers in primary industry are often exposed to harsh weather conditions. The physical demands of this work may make it difficult for people to stay in these jobs for a long time.

### Employment Outlook

Although labourers in the oil and gas, logging and forestry, and minerals and metal productions industries are forecasted to experience little employment growth in the coming years, prospects for harvesting, landscaping, and marine harvesting labourers are better.

There is a large turnover rate for these occupations, employment is commonly part-time and/or seasonal, and these are not high-paying jobs. Most workers in this occupational group are young, and therefore retirements will not contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Apple Picker  
Fish Farm Helper  
Sod Layer  
Tree Planter  
Mine Labourer

### Related Occupations

Agriculture and Horticulture Workers  
Aquaculture Operators and Managers  
Fishing Vessel Deckhands, Trappers, and Hunters  
Residential, Automotive, and Other Installers and Repairers  
Underground Drillers, Blasters, and Miners  
Oil and Gas Well Drilling and Service Workers

# Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Contractors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**730**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**37**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Landscaping and grounds maintenance contractors and managers plan, organize, and direct landscaping, lawn care, and tree service operations.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy working outdoors. Supervisory and communication skills are essential. You must be willing to try new processes and methods. The ability to adapt to constantly changing technologies is important for more efficient production. You must also be observant, innovative, and resourceful.

### Employment Requirements

- A diploma in landscaping and horticulture is usually required.
- Previous experience as a landscape or horticulture supervisor, or landscape or horticulture technician, is required.
- A pesticide applicator's licence from the Department of Environment and Labour is required to provide pesticide application service.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is highly seasonal and attracts a significant number of students during the peak summer months. Wages for this occupation are often low. Landscape Nova Scotia has been advocating for the certification of landscapers; such a move would professionalize the occupation and likely increase wage levels.

Horticulture is one of the fastest-growing leisure activities in North America. It is anticipated that the increasing age of Nova Scotia's population and more disposable income will create growth potential for landscape services.

### Typical Jobs

Lawn Care Manager  
Tree Service Contractor  
Landscaping Manager

### Related Occupations

Landscape Architects  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Nursery and Greenhouse Operators and Managers

# Logging and Forestry Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**1490**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**23**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals work in forestry-related occupations.

Chainsaw and skidder operators operate chainsaws to fell, de-limb, and bark trees at logging and loading sites; operate cable or grapple skidders to move felled trees from the logging site to the landing area; and assess site, terrain, and weather conditions before felling and yarding trees.

Forestry workers assess sites, select seedlings, and plant trees in reforestation areas; collect seed cones, prune trees, and mark trees for subsequent operations; and fight forest fires.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should enjoy working outdoors and be prepared to spend time in isolated areas. You must be able to work alone and as part of a team. An awareness of safety is important. Physical stamina may also be needed.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school may be required to work in any of these occupations. Completion of a college or other specialized program for silviculture workers or forestry crew workers may also be required.
- Previous experience as a logging and forestry labourer or logging machine operator may be required to work as a chainsaw operator or feller. You must remember, however, that experience requirements may vary depending on the type and location of woodlands operations.
- Certification in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) may also be required.

### Other Considerations

Most are part-year workers in this seasonal occupation; employment peaks in the summer months.

### Employment Outlook

In 2001, 41% of the logging labour force in Nova Scotia was 45 years of age or older. Therefore, it is anticipated that there will be some job openings corresponding to retirements in this occupation. Jobs in the forestry sector in Nova Scotia are dominated by logging, saw mills, and pulp and paper mills.

There have been productivity gains in the logging and forestry industries due to advances in technology. This has resulted in downsizing by many forestry and logging operations.

### Typical Jobs

Thinning Saw Operator  
Silviculture Worker  
Feller  
Forest Fire Fighter  
Chainsaw Operator

### Related Occupations

Foresters  
Logging and Forestry Workers  
Labourers in Primary Industry  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists  
Landscape and Horticultural  
Technicians and Specialists  
Nursery and Greenhouse Operators  
and Managers

# Logging Machinery Operators

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**680**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Logging machinery operators operate cable yarding systems, mechanical harvesters, and mechanical tree processors to fell, yard, and process trees at logging sites. They transport trees from logging areas to landing or loading sites; perform felling, slashing, bucking, and bunching operations at logging sites; and load logs or trees at landing sites.

### Skills

You must be alert and responsible. An awareness of safety is important. You should enjoy working outdoors and be prepared to spend time in isolation. Physical stamina and coordination are needed.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion and a minimum of one year of logging experience are usually required. Experience requirements vary depending on the complexity of the machinery to be operated.
- On-the-job training is provided by the employer. This can vary from three to sixteen months, depending on the complexity of the machinery.
- Certification as a heavy equipment operator and Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) certification may be required for some jobs.

### Other Considerations

Employment in the logging industry can vary significantly from one year to the next. Therefore, job prospects in these occupations will rise and fall along with the industry.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for logging workers has been reduced by increased automation and more efficient harvesting practices, and it will probably continue to drop. Also, the logging industry experiences fairly high turnover because the work is demanding and dangerous.

The United States is the main export market for Nova Scotia's wood products, and trade barriers against Canadian wood products will negatively affect demand for this occupation. Commodity prices and the housing market also impact this occupation. While it is anticipated that housing starts will be tapering off in 2006, this may be somewhat offset by a strong renovation market.

Although projected retirements in the coming years for this occupational group are significant, this will result in few job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Grapple Operator  
Log Processor Operator  
Chipping Machine Operator  
Shortwood Harvester Operator

### Related Occupations

Logging and Forestry Workers  
Heavy Equipment Operators  
Truck Drivers

# Nursery and Greenhouse Operators and Managers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**340**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Nursery and greenhouse operators and managers plan, organize, direct, and control the activities of nursery and greenhouse staff who grow and sell trees, shrubs, flowers, and plants. They develop work schedules; maintain quality control and production records; maintain financial records; and hire and supervise staff.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy working outdoors. Supervisory and communication skills are essential. You must be willing to try new processes and methods. The ability to adapt to constantly changing technologies is important for more efficient production. You must also be observant, innovative, and resourceful.

### Employment Requirements

- A college course in horticulture is usually required.
- Experience as a nursery or greenhouse supervisor is required.

### Employment Outlook

There are employment opportunities for horticulturalists; however, the majority of these positions are seasonal and because the majority of operations are family-run businesses, most managers also own the facilities. Privately owned and operated businesses in some areas of the province have been negatively impacted by an increase in chain store and supermarket nurseries and greenhouses.

Horticulture is a fast-growing leisure industry. Nova Scotia's aging population may increase the demand for landscape services and, in turn, create demand for nursery and greenhouse products.

### Typical Jobs

Christmas Tree Farm Operator  
Greenhouse Manager  
Flower Grower  
Nursery Operator

### Related Occupations

Agriculture and Horticulture Workers

# Oil and Gas Well Drillers and Related Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$32.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Oil and gas well drillers and well servicers control the operation of drilling and hoisting equipment on drilling rigs, and direct the activities of the rig crew. They are also responsible for training the rig crew and maintaining records of drilling and servicing operations.

Oil and gas well loggers and testers use specialized tools and equipment to collect data, record information, and conduct procedures and tests.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would also be helpful. You must be able to take direction and

carry out instructions given by supervisors.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma is usually required.
- Oil and gas well drillers and well servicers are required to complete three to six months of formal on-the-job training, college or Petroleum Industry Training Service (PITS) training courses, and four or more years of work experience in subordinate rig crew positions.
- Offshore drilling work requires several years of experience in an equivalent position on land.
- Oil and gas well loggers and testers require several years of related experience plus a three- to six-month on-the-job training program.

- A college program in electronics or engineering technology may be required for open-hole well logging.
- Courses in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG), or other safety subjects may also be required.
- A provincial blasting licence is required for some positions.

### Employment Outlook

Workers in this unit group are employed by drilling and well service contractors, petroleum-producing companies, and well logging or testing companies. Energy prices will impact the amount of new exploration and major production projects for the petroleum industry

in Nova Scotia. Proposed pipeline expansions may create some employment growth for this occupation. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years. Offshore oil and gas companies stationed off Sable Island have created some jobs for Nova Scotians.

### Typical Jobs

Service Rig Operator  
Gas Driller  
Driller, Oil and Gas Drilling  
Drill Stem Tester  
Well Testing Operator

### Related Occupations

Oil and Gas Well Drilling and Services Workers  
Water Well Drillers

# Oil and Gas Well Drilling and Services Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**120**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$33.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Oil and gas well drilling workers operate drilling and service rig machinery as intermediate members of the rig crew. They help to align sections of pipe and drill stems from platforms on rig derricks; maintain drilling mud systems and pumps; and operate motors and other mechanical equipment.

Oil and gas well services operators drive trucks, treat wells to stimulate production, and place cement in wells using specialized hydraulic pumping equipment.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would also be helpful. You must be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by supervisors.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma is usually required.
- One year of experience as a floorhand, assistant, or labourer is required.
- Up to three months of training with an experienced operator is required for oil and gas well services operators.

- Courses in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG), or other safety subjects may also be required.

### Employment Outlook

Little growth in employment is projected for this group. The number of retiring workers will not contribute significantly to job openings because the physical nature of the work requires younger-than-average employees. Resurgence in oil and gas exploration activity due to high prices for these commodities could create job openings in the future.

### Typical Jobs

Chemical Services Operator  
Acid Truck Driver  
Derrickman/woman  
Pumpman/woman

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Oil and Gas Well Drillers and Related Occupations

# Underground Drillers, Blasters, and Miners

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**190**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Individuals in these occupations work in mining and in oil and gas well drilling operations. Miners drill, blast, operate mining machinery, and perform related duties to extract coal and ore in underground mines and to construct tunnels, passageways, and shafts for mining operations.

## Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would also be helpful. You must be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by supervisors.

## Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is usually required for employment in any of these occupations.
- Previous experience as a mine labourer, or experience in other mine occupations, is usually required for employment as a conveyor operator, a crusher operator, or an underground mine blaster.
- Blasters must be certified by the Board of Examiners at the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, and must be at least 19 years old.

## Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for those in the mining industry are very sensitive to changes in the business cycle, in addition to other factors such as government regulations and rules, tax incentives, availability of reserves, and technological advancement. Rising metal prices due to strong demand from China for metals could create employment growth in the future. Canada's North has seen the greatest amount of employment growth for this occupational group, largely due to the emergence of the diamond industry.

Unemployment is high for these occupations due to mine closures in the province. Also, the mining industry has seen a trend towards the use of technology which allows more work to be done with fewer workers, resulting in a decline in the number of underground and production miners. Retirements are not anticipated to contribute significantly to job openings for this occupation in the coming years.

## Typical Jobs

Driller, Underground Mining  
Mining Machine Operator  
Shaft Inspector  
Blaster, Underground Mining  
Miner

## Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Underground Mine Service and  
Support Workers  
Drillers and Blasters





Occupations  
Unique to  
Processing,  
Manufacturing,  
and Utilities



# Aircraft Assemblers and Aircraft Assembly Inspectors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**410**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**34**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes those who assemble and inspect a wide variety of products. Aircraft assemblers install pre-fabricated parts to manufacture fixed- or rotary-wing aircraft or aircraft subassemblies, while aircraft assembly inspectors inspect aircraft assemblies for adherence to engineering specifications.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is required, and completion of a university or college program in aviation or aeronautical technology, with emphasis in aircraft manufacturing, may also be required.
- Experience as a aircraft assembler is required to become an aircraft assembly inspector.

### Employment Outlook

Employment in the aircraft and parts manufacturing industry is directly related to the sales and awarding of contracts for the production of new aircraft. The recent slowdown in airline business in Canada and other parts of the world has negatively affected demand for

aircraft assemblers and inspectors across Canada.

In Nova Scotia, the diversity of the aerospace sector and the availability of Canadian military contracts have buoyed the sector through a period of lower demand. It is expected that the airline industry will recover in the coming years and create more demand for these occupations.

This industry is affected by overall economic conditions, and employment levels can fluctuate. Because many products are imported, a high value of the Canadian dollar may negatively affect demand.

The four main components of the aerospace industry in Nova Scotia are software-based products and services, aerostructures, highly engineered niche products, and

military maintenance repair and overhaul. This sector is at the forefront of innovation and technology. Good computer skills are a requirement of this workforce.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Assembler  
Aircraft Assembly Inspector  
Airframe Assembler  
Wing Tank Mechanic  
Propellor Technician

### Related Occupations

Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors  
Machine Fitters

# Assemblers, Electrical Appliance and Industrial Motors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**100**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes those who put together, make, and inspect electrical and electronic parts and equipment.

Assemblers and fabricators operate machinery to make or assemble parts and products; assemble parts by hand; set up equipment; and perform minor repairs to items rejected from the production line.

Inspectors monitor production and troubleshoot production problems; identify and mark assemblies as acceptable or defective, and return faulty assemblies for repair; and collect, record, and summarize inspection results.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education is required.
- Progression from electronics assembler or component fabricator to electronics inspector or tester is possible with additional training and experience.

- Electronics testers may be required to have some university or college courses in basic electronic theory, testing techniques, and testing equipment.
- Electronics inspectors and testers may need to obtain experience as electronics assemblers or component fabricators.

### Employment Outlook

This industry is increasingly adopting high-technology manufacturing processes in order to remain competitive. In this occupational group, the outlook is best for aircraft and avionics assemblers. This occupation is sensitive to overall economic conditions. The number of employers for this occupation is limited, and self-employment is rare.

### Typical Jobs

Electrical Assembler  
Dishwasher Assembler  
AC and DC Motor Assembler  
Electrical Appliance Assembler  
Electrical Appliance Assembly Inspector

### Related Occupations

Electronics Assemblers, Fabricators, and Testers  
Assemblers, Fabricators, and Inspectors, Industrial etc.  
Oil Burner, Electrical, and Other Mechanics

# Assemblers and Fabricators, Industrial Electrical Equipment

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**60**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Workers in these occupations assemble, fit, and wire heavy-duty industrial electrical equipment.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma is usually required, and university or college courses in electricity or electrotechnology may be required.
- Several years of on-the-job training are usually provided.
- Several years of experience with the same company may be required to work as a lead hand or inspector.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is sensitive to overall economic conditions and many of this industry's products, such as industrial electrical equipment, face global competition for market share.

Nova Scotia excels in certain niche products, such as railway equipment, which influences demand for these occupations.

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. The workforce is relatively young, with an average age of 37 years. Retirements will not contribute significantly to job openings, and self-employment is rare.

### Typical Jobs

Industrial Electrical Fitter  
Industrial Electrical Motor Inspector  
Electrical Fitter  
Transformer Inspector

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Assemblers, Electrical Appliance and Industrial Motors  
Oil Burner, Electrical and Other Mechanics

# Boat Builders, Furniture Assemblers, and Related Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
2190

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
76

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$12.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

This group includes those who make, assemble, and finish a wide variety of products or inspect the finished products for quality.

For example, boat builders make wooden, fibreglass, and metal boats such as sailboats, canoes, and motor boats. Boat inspectors check the assembled boats to ensure product quality.

Furniture assemblers make articles of furniture, while inspectors check the finished products to ensure product quality. Assemblers may work with other wood products like window sashes and doors, or with plastics or fibreglass. Furniture finishers finish new wood or metal furniture to specified colour and finish. Furniture refinishers make repaired, used, or old furniture look like new.

Industrial painters and coaters work with brushes or spray equipment to apply paint, enamel, lacquer or other coatings. Many products are coated in this way, including airplanes, automobiles, or bathtubs.

Metal sprayers and platers coat articles with metal.

Other workers in this group assemble or inspect jewellery, silverware, clocks, watches, musical instruments, sporting goods, and toys.

### Skills

These occupations require mechanical aptitude and physical fitness. Good spatial perception, form perception, and hand-eye coordination are important. You must be accurate and attentive to detail.

### Employment Requirements

- These positions require some secondary-level education.
- On-the-job training is provided. Previous experience as a labourer for the same employer may be required.
- Boat Builder is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or have a Certificate of Qualification.
- Furniture finishers or refinishers may require courses in furniture finishing or refinishing.
- Aviation painters require specialized training or college courses.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for boatbuilders is linked to the strength of the boatbuilding industry in Nova Scotia. The boatbuilding industry is one of the fastest-growing manufacturing sectors in Nova Scotia, with a significant amount of manufacturing taking place in the southwest of the province. This industry has diversified into the manufacturing of pleasure craft for the luxury market.

There has been a particular growth in demand for custom or semi-custom pleasure boats, with many buyers from the United States. Nova Scotia has recently recognized boatbuilding as a certified trade and an apprenticeship program has been introduced in the province.

Demand for furniture and fixture assemblers and inspectors is affected by the stability of larger furniture manufacturing companies. Such companies face strong competition for market share from global competitors. These occupations are sensitive to overall economic conditions. Self-employment is not common for these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Metal Spray Operator  
Prefabricated Housing Assembler  
Boat Builder  
Furniture Assembler  
Bicycle Assembler

### Related Occupations

Machining, Metalworking,  
Woodworking, and Related  
Machine Operators  
Labourers in Processing,  
Manufacturing, and Utilities  
Motor Vehicle Body Repairers  
Carpenters  
Cabinetmakers  
Painters, Roofers, and Other  
Construction Trades



# Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**380**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**1**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals operate process control machinery and equipment in industries such as refineries, steel mills, chemical plants, and pulp mills. Duties may include coordinating and monitoring the operation of a particular aspect of mineral ore, metal, cement, chemical, or pulp processing production through control panels or computer terminals; completing and maintaining production reports; participating in safety audits and programs; and providing emergency response when required.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible and alert. Mechanical aptitude and knowledge of computers are important. You must be able to work as part of a team.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required, and previous related work experience is essential for these workers. Also important are a thorough knowledge of the related machinery and tools, and a sound background in the properties of the materials being processed or assembled and the procedures being used.
- Chemical process operators and process technicians require completion of several years of formal company or on-the-job training. Most employers require that you complete high school with courses in mathematics, physics, and chemistry.
- Pulping control operators may require a college program in forest products processing or a related subject.
- Also, depending on the nature of the work, a provincial Power (Stationary) Engineer or Refrigeration Plant Operator Certificate through the Public Safety Division of the Department of Environment and Labour may be required when certain kinds of equipment are included in the process.
- Certification in Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG), first aid, firefighting, or Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) may also be required.

### Other Considerations

Strong computer skills are important for employment in this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

Prospects for this occupational group are rated as fair, with stable growth expected in these occupations. Technological advancements have resulted in productivity gains whereby high production levels can be maintained with fewer workers. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Chemical Process Operators  
Gas Plant Operator  
Pipeline Compressor Station Operator  
Pulping Control Operator  
Rolling Mill Control Operator

### Related Occupations

Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Producing  
Stationary and Power Engineers  
Machine Operators in Metal and Mineral Products Processing  
Machine Operators in Chemical, Plastic, and Rubber Processing  
Machine Operators in Pulp and Paper Production and Wood Production

# Electronics Assemblers, Fabricators, and Testers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**370**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**18**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Assemblers and fabricators operate machinery to make or put together parts and products; assemble parts by hand; set up equipment; and perform minor repairs to items rejected from the production line.

Inspectors and testers inspect or test electronic assemblies, parts, and components to make sure they meet expected standards.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in

working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma is usually required.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.
- Electronics inspectors and testers may require experience in assembly or fabrication.
- Electronics testers may require post-secondary courses in basic electronic theory and testing techniques.

### Other Considerations

Self-employment in these occupations is rare, and work is not typically seasonal.

### Employment Outlook

The electronic components industry in Nova Scotia is affected by global competition from foreign producers who have lower operating costs. This occupation is sensitive to overall economic conditions.

There are a few niche markets where this industry excels in Nova Scotia. Orion Electronics, located in the Annapolis Valley area, is a large employer of this occupational group, and their recent expansion has

increased demand for these occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Wave Soldering Machine Operator  
Electronics Inspector  
Electronic Components Tester  
Circuit Board Assembler

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Assemblers, Electrical Appliance and Industrial Motors

# Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing, and Utilities

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**5120**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**146**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes many occupations that do not require a high level of formal training.

They are generally performed inside a home, building, or other structure. These workers operate and monitor various types of machinery and equipment; load and transport materials; and check, sort, assemble, or package materials and products.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good physical health. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education may be sufficient to work as a labourer in metal fabrication, rubber and plastic products manufacturing, or

textile, food, beverage, and fish processing.

- Employment in wood, pulp and paper, mineral and metal, and chemical products processing and utilities requires completion of high school.

### Other Considerations

Although work patterns vary according to the employer's business and the type of work done, work in these occupations is generally seasonal. Generally, this work is carried out in shifts at various hours of the day or on a part-time basis.

### Employment Outlook

The largest occupations included in this group are labourers in food, beverage and tobacco, and labourers in fish processing.

For fish-plant workers, most employment opportunities for this occupation are found in the

southwest and South Shore areas of Nova Scotia. Resource availability has impacted the processing sector. Due to the decline of the ground fishery, the demand for fish workers has also declined. Also, there has been a significant consolidation of fish-processing operations. This work is often seasonal, and it is common for employers to hire the same workers year after year. Promotions generally occur from within the organization.

For labourers in food, beverage and tobacco, employment is concentrated in the Annapolis Valley area and involves processing agricultural products. For this occupational group, many positions are seasonal. Wages are typically low for these occupations, and turnover is commonly high.

### Typical Jobs

Shellfish Packer  
Plywood Drier Feeder  
Labourer, Rubber Manufacturing  
Foundry Labourer  
Box Packer  
Dairy Helper

### Related Occupations

Boatbuilders, Furniture Assemblers, and Related Occupations  
Machining, Metalworking, Woodworking, and Related Machine Operators  
Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Producing  
Residential, Automotive, and Other Installers and Repairers  
Power Station and Power Systems Operators  
Machine Operators, Various

# Machine Operators in Chemical, Plastic, and Rubber Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**3080**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**70**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes many machine-related occupations that require some skill and are generally performed inside a building. These workers assist with repairs and maintenance of machinery; handle materials; monitor machine operations; and clean work areas.

Chemical plant machine operators mix, process, and package chemicals, pharmaceuticals, cleaning, and toiletry products. Mixing machine operators, extruding process operators, moulding process operators, and calendaring process operators operate machines used to manufacture plastic products.

Rubber processing machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors are involved in the manufacture of rubber products.

Water plant operators and waste plant operators monitor and operate computerized control systems and equipment to regulate the treatment and distribution of water and the treatment and disposal of sewage and wastes.

## Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

## Employment Requirements

- Most jobs in this group require some high school education, and completion of high school may be preferred.
- Machine operators in chemical plants or water or waste treatment centres are usually required to have a high school diploma as well as courses in Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG).
- Previous related experience is generally required.
- On-the-job training is generally provided.
- Machine operators in plastics processing may be required to take a Statistical Process Control (SPC) course.
- Water or waste plant operators require a certification in water distribution or treatment from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

## Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for this occupational group are rated as fair, with steady employment growth projected and retirements and attrition contributing to job openings in the coming years.

Rubber-processing machine operators and related workers are the largest occupation included in this grouping. In 2000, they made up 73% of the workers included in this employment group. Michelin Tire, with plants in Waterville and Bridgewater, is the largest employer for this occupation.

## Typical Jobs

Mixer, Chemical Processing  
Extruder Operator, Plastic  
Manufacturing  
Rubber Processing Machine Operator  
Tire Builder  
Water Treatment Plant Operator  
Sewage Plant Operator

## Related Occupations

Boat Builders, Furniture Assemblers, and Related Occupations  
Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing, and Utilities  
Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Processing  
Residential, Automotive and Other Installers and Repairers

# Machine Operators in Fabric, Fur, and Leather Products Manufacturing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**680**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**22**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes those who operate machines used in making clothing, fur, and leather products. Sewing machine operators sew fabric, fur, leather, and synthetic materials. Fabric cutters and fur cutters use computer-controlled cutting devices, knives, or cutters to cut the material to a pattern. Leather cutters cut, punch, and stretch leather to make shoes, clothing, and other items. Hide and pelt processing workers prepare hides, skins, and pelts to make leather and furs. Inspectors and testers inspect and grade these products.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Most jobs in this group require some high school education.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.
- Sewing machine operators usually must have previous experience operating a sewing machine.
- Inspectors and testers require previous experience manufacturing the product being inspected.

### Other Considerations

Shift work may be typical for many of these jobs.

### Employment Outlook

This industry is affected by global competition for textiles and fur products and changing consumer demands for fashion. There are two major employers of this occupational group in the Annapolis Valley area for textiles production and one large fur-producing firm in the southwest of Nova Scotia. Overall, demand for many of these occupations appears to be limited, with few employers and an adequate supply of labour.

### Typical Jobs

Fabric Cutter  
Fur Cutter  
Tanner  
Garment Inspector  
Sewing Machine Operator

### Related Occupations

Upholsterers, Jewellers, Shoemakers,  
and Related Trades  
Machine Operators in Textile  
Processing

# Machine Operators in Food and Beverage Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**3600**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**85**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These workers use machines to prepare, process, or package meat, poultry, fish, baked goods, and other food and beverage products. Process control operators run complex multi-functional process control machinery. Machine operators run machines that, for example, might freeze, mix, or package food. Industrial butchers, meat cutters, poultry preparers, and trimmers prepare meat for additional processing. Fish plant cutters and cleaners cut, trim, and clean fish by hand. Testers and graders assess products to make sure that they meet standards.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion may be required.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.
- Process control operators may require previous experience as a machine operator in food processing.
- Machine operators may require previous experience as a labourer in food and beverage processing.
- Industrial meat cutters require either a program in industrial meat cutting or experience as an industrial butcher or trimmer.

### Other Considerations

Shift work may be typical for many of these jobs.

### Employment Outlook

The largest occupation included in this grouping is fish plant workers. Most employment opportunities for this occupation are found in the southwest and South Shore areas of Nova Scotia. Resource availability has impacted the processing sector. Due to the decline of the ground fishery, the demand for fish workers has declined. Also, there has been a significant consolidation of fish processing operations. This work is often seasonal, and it is common for employers to hire the same workers year after year.

These are typically not high-paying jobs, and this often leads to a high rate of turnover for these occupations. Promotions generally occur from within the organization.

Most of these occupations are based in rural areas. There is some demand related to food and beverage processing in the Annapolis Valley area.

### Typical Jobs

Fish Plant Worker  
Bottling Machine Operator  
Brewer  
Industrial Butcher  
Shellfish Processor  
Product Tester, Food and Beverage Processing

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Processing,  
Manufacturing, and Utilities  
Bakers  
Butchers  
Agricultural and Fish Products  
Inspectors



# Machine Operators in Metal and Mineral Products Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**440**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**0**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes many machine-related occupations that require some skill and are generally performed inside a building. These workers assist with repairs and maintenance of machinery; feed conveyors and other equipment; handle materials; monitor machine operations; and clean work areas.

Mineral and metal processing machine operators process mineral ore and metal products. Foundry furnace operators run the furnaces in foundries to melt and cast metals. Mineral and metal inspectors and testers inspect and grade the finished product.

Other machine operators in this group control machinery to form products made of glass, concrete, clay, or stone.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Most jobs in this group require high school completion. Depending on the employer, some secondary school education may be sufficient for employment in working with concrete, clay, or stone.
- On-the-job training is generally required.
- Related experience as a labourer or helper is generally required.
- Mould makers who build or repair wooden forms for concrete products may require some previous experience in carpentry or woodworking.

### Employment Outlook

Prospects for this occupational group are rated as limited, due to little projected growth in these occupations and few job openings arising from retirements or attrition in the coming years. Employment prospects for concrete, clay, and stone forming operators are closely tied to activity in the construction industry, which uses these products. Housing construction is expected to decline in the coming years in Nova Scotia; however, large-scale construction projects are expected to remain steady.

Employment prospects for inspectors and testers of mineral and metal processing operations are affected by global mining activity and the strength of mineral prices. Mineral production in Nova Scotia is dominated by industrial minerals such as gypsum, sand and gravel, and salt. Employment for these occupations is also tied to the level of activity in the construction industry. Most of the production is currently exported to the northeastern United States. All minerals production occurs in rural areas, and at the present time there is virtually no production of metallic minerals in Nova Scotia. Self-employment in these occupations is rare.

### Typical Jobs

Metal Processing Machine Operator  
Die-casting Machine Operator  
Foundry Worker  
Glass Moulder  
Glass Cutter  
Cement Miller

### Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers  
Artisans, Craftspersons, and Related Occupations  
Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities  
Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Processing  
Bricklayers  
Concrete Finishers

# Machine Operators in Pulp and Paper Production and Wood Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
2000

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
42

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$15.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

This group includes many machine-related occupations that require some skill and are generally performed inside a building. These workers assist with repairs and maintenance of machinery; feed conveyors and other equipment; handle materials; monitor machine operations; and clean work areas.

Sawmill machine operators saw timber, trim and plane to produce dressed lumber, and split shingles and shakes. Pulp mill machine operators operate and monitor processing machinery and equipment to produce pulp.

Papermaking and finishing machine operators operate machinery and equipment and assist papermaking and coating control operators to produce, coat, and finish paper. Other machine operators remove bark from logs, produce wood chips, preserve and treat wood, and produce wood products such as particle board, plywood, or veneer. Paper converting machine operators assemble paper products such as bags, containers, boxes, or envelopes.

Inspectors and graders inspect, grade, and classify lumber, shingles, waferboard, and other wood products.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required or preferred for most of these occupations. On-the-job training is usually required, and formal company training or college courses may be required.
- Completion of high school is required by the pulp and paper industry, and pulp mill machine operators may require a diploma in forest products processing or a related subject.
- Related experience may be required.
- A course in industrial first aid may be required for sawmill, pulp mill, papermaking, and finishing machine operators.
- Lumber graders must be licensed by the Maritime Lumber Bureau.

### Other Considerations

These are largely rural occupations, and self-employment is not common.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for this occupation are affected by the forestry industry in Nova Scotia as many of these occupations involve value-added production of semi-finished and finished wood products. Compared to other provinces, Nova Scotia does not have a large specialization in this sort of processing.

The forestry industry has suffered through a protracted period of low prices and uncertainty due to the softwood lumber dispute with the United States, which has negatively affected demand for these occupations. Competitive producers such as China and Russia are also creating global competition in export markets for these products.

The largest occupation included in this grouping is sawmill machine operators, which in 2000 accounted for 37% of this grouping.

### Typical Jobs

Chipper Operator  
Box Maker Operator  
Lumber Grader  
Sawmill Machine Operator  
Wallpaper Hanger

### Related Occupations

Machining, Metalworking,  
Woodworking and Related  
Machine Operators  
Labourers in Processing,  
Manufacturing and Utilities  
Central Control and Process  
Operators in Manufacturing and  
Processing  
Forestry Technicians and Technologists  
Printing Machine Operators

# Machine Operators in Textile Processing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**420**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Weavers, knitters, and loom operators process yarn and thread into products and may also quilt and embroider fabrics. Textile fibre and yarn preparation machine operators prepare textile fibres and spin, wind, and twist yarn and thread. Textile dyers and finishing machine operators bleach, dye, and finish textile products. Inspectors, graders, and samplers ensure that the finished product meets quality standards.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, alert, and in good physical health. Coordination, agility, and a mechanical aptitude are

important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Most jobs in this group require some high school education. Completion of high school is preferred, especially for dyeing and finishing machine operators.
- Previous related work experience is generally required.

### Other Considerations

Shift work may be typical for many of these jobs.

### Employment Outlook

The textiles industry in Nova Scotia faces extremely tough international

competition. Inexpensive foreign clothing imports compete with locally produced clothing, which has higher operating costs. The development of niche markets is important for this industry as such markets are less susceptible to fluctuations in economic conditions and changes in taste and fashion.

Some larger employers for this occupational group have scaled back their operations significantly in the past few years and this has negatively affected demand for these occupations. Also, the closure of the Britex elastics plant in the Annapolis Valley area in 2004 resulted in many job losses. Overall, the number of employers for these occupations in Nova Scotia is limited.

### Typical Jobs

Weaver  
Carpet Weaver  
Knitting Machine Operator  
Dyer  
Screen Printing Operator, Textile Manufacturing  
Cloth Grader

### Related Occupations

Artisans, Craftspersons, and Related Occupations  
Machine Operators in Fabric, Fur, and Leather Products Manufacturing  
Textile Machinery Mechanics and Repairers

# Machining, Metalworking, Woodworking, and Related Machine Operators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1030**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**38**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group includes many occupations that make use of machinery.

Machining tool operators work with metal-cutting machines designed to do repetitive machining work. Forging machine operators form and shape metal into various shapes and sizes with the desired strength or hardness. Woodworking machine operators make and repair wooden parts for furniture and other wood products. Metalworking machine operators form metal into parts and products. Others operate machines to make jewellery, buttons, pencils, crayons, brushes, and many other items.

Duties of operators may include setting up and operating machinery; cleaning and lubricating equipment; replacing parts as necessary; and reading and interpreting specifications or following verbal instructions.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have a mechanical aptitude and good physical health. You must be accurate and attentive to detail. You must be able to take direction and carry out instructions.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of some high school education is usually required for workers in these occupations. Although there are no formal

academic requirements, many employers are looking for individuals with a high school diploma and previous training and experience in a related mechanical or machine-operating field.

- Some of these positions, e.g. aircraft parts etcher, may require courses in machining.

### Other Considerations

Generally, work is carried out in shifts at various hours of the day.

### Employment Outlook

This is not a large occupational group in Nova Scotia. Employment prospects for these occupations are dependent on the strength of the manufacturing sector in Nova Scotia, particularly that of sawmills and

metal fabrication plants. A recent decline in the number of small businesses across many metalworking industries has negatively affected demand for some occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Parts Etcher  
Forging Press Operator  
Lathe Machine Operator  
Punch Press Operator  
Woodworking Machine Operator

### Related Occupations

Welders  
Machinists, Tool and Die Makers, and Tooling Inspectors

# Mechanical Assemblers and Inspectors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**90**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Mechanical assemblers put together a wide variety of products such as trucks, buses, snowmobiles, tractors, hydraulic pumps, and sewing machines.

Mechanical inspectors check both subassemblies and finished products for quality and performance.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must

be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education and up to two years of on-the-job training are required.
- Inspectors may be required to have experience as a mechanical assembler.

### Employment Outlook

Assemblers and inspectors in this group are primarily employed by machinery and transportation equipment manufacturers. Many of these products compete globally for market share, and these manufacturers are sensitive to overall economic conditions. Because the United States is a large export market for many of these goods, the strength of the US economy may also affect this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Automotive Engine Assembler  
Sewing Machine Assembler  
Snowmobile Assembler  
Vending Machine Assembler  
Truck Assembly Inspector

### Related Occupations

Aircraft Assemblers and Aircraft Assembly Inspectors  
Motor Vehicle Assemblers, Inspectors, and Testers  
Machine Fitters

# Motor Vehicle Assemblers, Inspectors, and Testers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**140**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Motor vehicle assemblers build cars by installing parts and components to form subassemblies, and fitting and adjusting parts such as doors, hoods, and trunk lids.

Inspectors and testers ensure proper performance of the parts and test the finished car, van, light truck, or SUV by driving it or using roll-testing devices.

### Skills

This work requires excellent spatial perception, form perception, and eye-to-finger coordination. You must be accurate and able to pay close attention to detail. A keen interest in working with machines and routine processes is necessary. You should also be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education is usually required. Completion of high school is an advantage.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.

### Employment Outlook

The motor vehicle industry in Canada has faced stiff competition from foreign companies, which has resulted in a loss of market share for the industry. Growth for these occupations is linked to the sales performance of motor vehicles made in Nova Scotia and the long-term investment practices of major manufacturers in the province.

The motor vehicle industry is increasingly automated. An aptitude in these technologies is important for employment in this industry. This is not a large occupational group in Nova Scotia. The workforce is relatively young, and predominantly male.

### Typical Jobs

Transmission Assembler  
Auto Assembly Worker  
Motor Vehicle Assembler  
Motor Vehicle Assembly Inspector  
Test Driver, Automobile Assembly

### Related Occupations

Motor Vehicle Mechanics  
Mechanical Assemblers and Inspectors

# Printing Machine Operators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**650**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Individuals in these occupations operate printers and cameras, bind books, and develop film. Printing machine operators operate laser printers, computerized high-speed colour copiers, and other printing machines to print text, illustrations, and designs. Graphic arts camera operators convert photographs to film for printing. Other workers, such as cylinder preparers, film assemblers, platemakers, pre-press technicians, scanner operators, and proofmakers, are involved in preparing material for print. Binders and finishers make the final touches to complete a professional printing job.

Photofinishers and film processors work for either professional photographers or retail outlets.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible and alert. Coordination and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is required for most of these occupations.
- Printing machine operators may require courses in printing.
- Graphic arts camera operators, film strippers/assemblers, platemakers, pre-press technicians, scanner operators, proofmakers, binding and finishing machine operators, and cylinder operators may require a certificate or diploma in graphic arts technology or a combination of on-the-job training and related courses.
- Photographic and film processors may require completion of a college program or extensive related experience.
- Film printing machine operators in retail outlets are provided with on-the-job training.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects differ for the various occupations included in this employment grouping. Opportunities are best for photographic and film processors. In the longer term, this occupation may be negatively affected by the decreasing cost of photo printers, printer ink, and photo-quality paper. Opportunities for printing machine operators are projected to be limited. The introduction of new production technologies has increased employee productivity and will continue to do so.

This is a young labour force, and retirements will not contribute significantly to job openings. These occupations are not very sensitive to overall employment conditions, and self-employment is uncommon.

### Typical Jobs

Pre-press Technician  
Darkroom Technician  
Printing Machine Operator  
Platemaker  
Scanner Operator  
Film Processor

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Clerical Workers, Office Equipment Operators  
Graphic Arts Technicians  
Graphic Designers



## Sales and Service Occupation



# Airline Sales and Service Agents

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
270

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
6

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$12.50 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Airline passenger and ticket agents issue tickets, provide fare quotations, make reservations, and assist passengers in checking in. Baggage agents trace missing baggage and provide related services to customers. Cargo agents arrange for cargo shipments. Airline load planners plan the positioning of cargo on the aircraft.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. Knowledge of the

airline industry will be required. Good communication skills are also necessary. Knowledge of both official languages or an additional language may be required.

### Employment Requirements

- While previous related work experience is an asset for these jobs, employers generally also expect at least a high school diploma.
- Educational training in the hospitality industry and knowledge of a second language are definite assets for positions that require working with the public.
- Several weeks of on-the-job and classroom training is usually provided by the employer.

- You usually require experience as a ticket, baggage, or cargo agent to qualify for work as an airline station agent.

### Other Considerations

General economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. The trend towards airline self-service kiosks at airports and Internet ticket sales has negatively affected demand for this occupational group.

The average age of airline sales and service agents in Nova Scotia is 45 years. Although retirements are expected, this will not contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Airline Ticket Agent  
Airline Cargo Agent  
Airline Reservation Agent  
Airline Station Agent  
Baggage Agent, Airline

### Related Occupations

Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants  
Travel Counsellors  
Ticket and Cargo Agents

# Babysitters and Nannies

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
3270

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
81

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
BELOW AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$8.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Babysitters and nannies supervise and care for children in the absence of a regular caregiver. They may work in the employer's residence and provide for the children's health, physical, and social development. Household duties such as meals and laundry are often included. They may care for children on an ongoing or short-term basis.

### Skills

To work in this field, you must be patient, understanding, and emotionally supportive. The ability to follow directions and work under supervision is important. You should be sensitive and able to respond in a positive and caring way. Dependability and good judgement

are also essential. Good health and physical strength may be necessary for some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- Although no formal education is required for this work, secondary or post-secondary education may be required. A training program in child care or a related field may be helpful, as more employers are requesting training and experience.
- Previous experience in childcare or household management may be required.
- First aid certification and Child Abuse Register check may also be required.

### Other Considerations

Most workers in these occupations do not work full-time for the entire year, and jobs tend to be seasonal.

### Employment Outlook

Dual-income families and single parents have created particular demand for these services. Due to the part-time nature of this work and relatively low pay, there is significant turnover for these occupations.

There are a number of reasons for the low employment growth expected for this group. Due to the informal way in which much employment for these occupations is conducted, it is difficult to obtain a reliable indication of the number of workers and the supply of unemployed workers. Often parents may employ friends and family to care for their children. Many parents prefer to send their children to licensed group daycares because of the associated structured learning and social environment; this results in less demand for babysitters and nannies.

Shifting demographics will also have an effect on these occupations. Nova Scotia's aging population and corresponding decline in birth rates will mean that there will be fewer parents with small children, resulting in declining demand for babysitters and nannies.

### Typical Jobs

Nanny  
Parent's Helper  
Babysitter  
Live-in Caregiver

### Related Occupations

Early Childhood Educators and Assistants

# Bakers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1370**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**31**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$8.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Bakers prepare bread, rolls, muffins, pies, and cakes for sale in retail food stores or for restaurants. They decorate cakes or other baked goods according to standard patterns or special customer orders. A baker may decide on the type and quantity of baked goods to be produced, purchase baking supplies, hire and train baking personnel, and promote sales of baked goods.

### Skills

This work requires initiative, imagination, and creativity. A knowledge of basic nutrition and baking methods is needed. You should understand and apply the rules of hygiene and sanitation.

Organization, time management, and the ability to perform under pressure are important. You must have good physical health, stamina, and manual dexterity. You may be required to work shift work and establish good working relationships with a variety of co-workers and customers.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal academic or training requirements to become a baker, although high school completion is usually required.
- Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as a baker in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to hold a Certificate of Qualification. The Baker trade is designated for

certification only in Nova Scotia. No formal apprenticeship training program is presently available in the province. Contact the Apprenticeship Training Division, Nova Scotia Department of Education, for certification requirements.

### Employment Outlook

Bakers work for a variety of establishments and institutions. The consolidation of the grocery industry into large supermarket chains has made employment in small businesses and self-employment less common. Increasingly, many establishments are contracting out their baking services to a number of specialized firms. Automated mass production

of bakery goods has also had some effect on demand for this occupation. There continues to be a niche market for high-quality baked goods such as organic bread and specialty pastries, which are often produced on a smaller scale.

This is a relatively young workforce, and retirements are not expected to contribute to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Baker  
Bakery Supervisor  
Head Baker

### Related Occupations

Food and Beverage Service Occupations

# Butchers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**990**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**30**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Butchers cut, trim, and prepare standard cuts of meat, poultry, and fish for sale.

They may be required to prepare special displays of meat, poultry, and fish. Butchers must use a number of machines and adhere to strict safety and hygiene regulations.

### Skills

To be a butcher you must have good physical health, physical stamina, and manual dexterity. You must be able to take direction and carry out instructions. You may be required to work shift work and establish good working relationships with a variety of co-workers and customers.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and a diploma or certificate program in meat cutting may be required by some employers, although there are no formal academic requirements for this occupation.

### Employment Outlook

Opportunities exist for this occupation in food processing plants, as prepared foods are increasingly popular with consumers. There has been a trend in the grocery industry towards a consolidation of grocery stores into larger supermarket chains, resulting in fewer butchers being employed in small businesses or self-employed. This is a relatively young workforce, and turnover should contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Butcher  
Wholesale Butcher  
Retail Butcher  
Supermarket Meat Cutter

### Related Occupations

Machine Operators in Food and Beverage Processing

# By-Law Enforcement and Other Regulatory Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**90**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These officers and inspectors enforce specific by-laws and regulations of provincial and municipal governments. Animal control officers enforce animal control by-laws. Commercial transport inspectors inspect transport vehicles. Garbage collection inspectors investigate complaints regarding the storing and collection of garbage. Other areas requiring inspectors and enforcement officers are liquor licences, parking control, taxi service, and property zoning.

### Skills

You must be resourceful and able to work on your own carrying out instructions given by your employer.

It will be necessary to gain a good knowledge of the regulations pertaining to your work. Excellent communication, observation, and problem-solving skills are essential. You should have a valid driver's licence. Cultural sensitivity and patience are important. You should also be able to communicate with and gain the respect of the public. Candidates are required to pass the appropriate background check.

### Employment Requirements

- You must successfully complete high school to work in these occupations.
- Completion of a certificate or diploma program in law and

security or experience in a related occupation is usually required.

- On-the-job training is provided.
- Zoning inspectors may require a diploma in civil engineering or architectural technology and several years of experience in enforcement or construction.

### Employment Outlook

By-law enforcement officers and other regulatory officers are employed by the public sector or by publicly funded organizations. Most occupations in this group are staffed by municipalities. Demand for this occupation is largely fueled by funding for by-law enforcement activities.

The approximate average of this occupational group is 43 years. Retirements are expected to create some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Taxi Inspector  
Parking Control Officer  
Commercial Transport Inspector  
Animal Control Officer  
Liquor License Inspector

### Related Occupations

Technical Inspectors and Regulatory Officers  
Police Officers  
Immigration, Employment Insurance, and Revenue Officers  
Sheriffs and Bailiffs  
Private Investigators and Other Protective Service Occupations

## Casino Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**220**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Casino workers operate gaming tables, maintain slot machines, accept keno wagers, pay out winning bets and jackpots, and collect losing bets. Supervisors of gambling casino workers are included in this unit group.

### Skills

Casino workers require good vision and hearing. Manual dexterity is needed to operate gambling tables and games with cards. You will need to be methodical and comfortable with simple calculations in order to ensure that all patrons are aware of and follow the rules, and to determine winners, collect bets, pay winners, and keep reports. Good communication skills are required to explain rules and ensure that patrons follow them, as well as to resolve complaints.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is usually required.
- On-the-job training is provided for gaming table dealers.
- Security clearance is required for all gambling casino workers.
- A gaming licence from the Nova Scotia Alcohol and Gaming Authority is required for anyone involved in casino operations.

### Employment Outlook

These workers are employed by gambling casinos. There are two casinos in Nova Scotia, located in Halifax and Sydney and owned by Casino Nova Scotia. The strength of the tourism industry and the impact of gaming regulations affect this industry.

This occupation has a relatively young workforce. Turnover in these occupations is common, and recruitment is ongoing.

### Typical Jobs

Slot Supervisor  
Croupier  
Slot Machine Attendant  
Pit Boss  
Supervisor, Gaming Tables

### Related Occupations

Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and Related Sales and Service Occupations

# Chefs

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**700**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**19**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Chefs plan and direct food preparation and prepare a wide variety of foods in restaurants or hospitals. They may prepare complete meals, individual dishes, or special meals. They plan menus, determine size of food portions, estimate food requirements and costs of ingredients and labour, and monitor and order supplies. They are responsible for maintaining food quality standards. Chefs may recruit, hire, and supervise apprentice chefs, cooks, and kitchen staff as well as arranging for the purchase or repair of equipment. Chefs may specialize in a regional cuisine or in preparing a particular type of food, such as pastry.

### Skills

This work requires initiative, imagination, and creativity. A knowledge of basic nutrition and cooking methods is needed. You should understand and apply the rules of hygiene, sanitation, and occupational safety. Organization, time management, and the ability to perform under pressure are important. You must have good physical health, physical stamina, and manual dexterity. You will be required to establish good working relationships with a variety of co-workers and customers and display a professional attitude.

### Employment Requirements

- Chefs are generally required to complete high school plus a three-year cook's apprenticeship program, or equivalent training and experience. This occupation is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as a cook in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.
- Chefs usually require several years of experience as a cook.
- Red Seal certification is available for qualified chefs.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for this occupation will be fair in the coming years. Demand for this occupation is linked to rising disposable incomes, economic growth, and travel and tourism to the province.

Executive and specialist chefs with excellent training and many years of experience are in the highest demand.

### Typical Jobs

Pastry Chef  
Master Chef  
Specialist Chef  
Executive Chef  
Sous-Chef

### Related Occupations

Cooks



# Cooks

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**5860**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**134**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Cooks prepare and cook a wide variety of meals and foods in restaurants and institutions. They may prepare complete meals, individual dishes, or special meals as instructed by a dietitian or chef. They are responsible for maintaining food quality standards and supervising kitchen helpers.

### Skills

This work requires initiative, imagination, and creativity. A knowledge of basic nutrition and cooking methods is needed. You should understand and apply the rules of hygiene, sanitation, and occupational safety. Organization, time management, and the ability to perform under pressure are important. You must have good physical health, physical stamina, and manual dexterity. You will be

required to establish good working relationships with a variety of co-workers and customers and display a professional attitude.

### Employment Requirements

- Cooks are generally required to complete high school and either a three-year cook's apprenticeship program, or equivalent training and experience.
- This occupation is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as a cook in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.
- Interprovincial Red Seal certification is available for qualified cooks.

### Other Considerations

Because these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Furthermore, a high rate of turnover in these occupations generates numerous job openings for people seeking employment. Earnings can vary significantly depending upon the skills and training of the individual, and the type of establishment will have a major impact on the wages paid.

Red Seal trade certification allows for interprovincial mobility.

### Employment Outlook

Cooks are employed in a wide variety of institutions and establishments. This occupation is slightly sensitive to economic conditions relating to the hospitality sector. Some employment in this occupation may be seasonal,

moving in tandem with tourism or the academic year.

This is a large employment group in Nova Scotia, with a relatively young workforce. Unlike chef, cook tends to be an entry-level occupation, with lower wages and a high incidence of employee turnover. Advancement to supervisory or more senior positions, such as chef, is possible with experience and training.

### Typical Jobs

Hospital Cook  
Dietary Cook  
Institutional Cook  
Short Order Cook

### Related Occupations

Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and Related Sales and Service Occupations  
Chefs

# Correctional Service Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**490**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**17**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$24.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Correctional service officers guard prisoners and detainees, and maintain order in correctional institutions and other places of detention. They escort prisoners in transit and supervise prisoners during work assignments, meals, and recreation. Their role is to observe the behaviour of prisoners and prepare reports, and to prevent disturbances and escapes.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be physically fit and in excellent health, and have a valid driver's licence. Cultural sensitivity, patience, and mental stability are important. You must be resourceful

and able to work on your own carrying out instructions given by your employer. It will be necessary to gain a good knowledge of the regulations pertaining to your work. Excellent communication, observation, and problem-solving skills are essential. You should also be able to communicate with and gain the respect of the public. Candidates are required to pass the appropriate background check.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma and a basic training course are required to work as a correctional officer.
- You must complete a Correctional Service of Canada training course to work for a federal institution.

### Employment Outlook

Correctional services officers are employed by the provincial government. The average age of these officers is approximately 41 years, and it is expected that retirements will contribute to some job openings in the coming years. However, the number of openings will be small due to the small size of this occupation.

Correctional Services is a division of the Department of Justice. Demand for correctional services officers is linked to the funding and expansion of Correctional Services and their facilities. In recent years a new Southwest Correctional Facility in Yarmouth and a women's facility in Truro have opened. Meanwhile, the

Kings and Lunenburg correctional facilities have been closed.

### Typical Jobs

Correctional Service Officer  
Correctional Facility Guard  
Prison Guard  
Supervisor, Correctional Officers

### Related Occupations

Community and Social Service Workers  
Social Workers

# Early Childhood Educators and Assistants

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**3800**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**115**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.25 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Early childhood educators plan and organize activities to encourage the intellectual, physical, and emotional growth of children. They lead children in activities; guide and assist children in their development; and discuss the children's progress with their parents.

Early childhood educator assistants supervise preschool children in daycare centres and nursery schools, and, under the supervision of an early childhood educator, they lead children in activities to stimulate and develop their intellectual, physical, and emotional growth through storytelling, songs, and creative activities. They also prepare and serve children snacks.

## Skills

For these occupations, you should enjoy working with children. Good health and physical stamina are needed. You must be patient, imaginative, and resourceful. The ability to communicate ideas in a clear, concise, and pleasant manner is also necessary.

## Employment Requirements

- A bachelor's degree or diploma in early childhood education is required to become a childhood educator. A bachelor's degree in education may also qualify, providing you have sufficient experience and additional training in early childhood practice.
- Completion of high school and experience in child care are required to become a childhood educator assistant. Additional post-secondary training may also be required.
- For a childcare facility to be licensed, the director and at least two-thirds of the staff must have completed an appropriate training program. An application to become licensed must be made to the Department of Community Services—Prevention and Childcare Services Section.

## Other Considerations

Self-employment and part-time work are both relatively common for this occupation.

## Employment Outlook

Many parents prefer to have their children cared for by trained staff and in a structured environment with opportunities for learning and socializing with other children.

The demand for daycare will remain strong as women continue to participate in the labour market at high levels and are more likely to remain in the workforce once they have children.

Compared to occupations with similar education requirements, early childhood educators have lower salaries and a large amount of responsibility and stress in their positions. In Nova Scotia, a significant number of job openings due to turnover are expected in the coming years.

## Typical Jobs

Day Care Worker  
Child-care Worker, Day-care  
Preschool Supervisor  
Early Childhood Educator  
Early Childhood Program Staff  
Assistant

## Related Occupations

School Teacher, School Counsellors,  
and School Librarians  
Teacher Assistants

# Estheticians, Electrologists, and Related Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**820**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**23**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These workers provide facial and body treatments designed to enhance an individual's physical appearance.

### Skills

For this work, you must have good manual dexterity, imagination, and creativity. Good communication, organization, and interpersonal skills are definite assets. You should be tactful, patient, and able to follow directions closely. You must be in good health. Business skills are a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school plus college or beauty school programs for cosmeticians, estheticians, electrologists, manicurists, and pedicurists are required.
- Estheticians must complete 1,250 hours of training and pass a licensing exam administered by the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia.
- Nail technicians must complete 250 hours of training and pass a licensing exam administered by the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia.
- Make-up artists require 300 hours of training and must pass a licensing exam administered by the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia.
- Colour consultants, make-up and skin care consultants, and weight-loss consultants may require specialized training courses, along with some experience and expertise in fashion, art, and modeling.
- Tattoo artists are not regulated in Nova Scotia; however, reputable practitioners follow the guidelines established by Health Canada.

### Other Considerations

Self-employment is common for these occupations. Earnings for people in these occupations are often supplemented by tips or gratuities. Therefore, an individual's income will likely depend upon their ability to attract and maintain a group of clients. This work usually occurs in clean, pleasant surroundings with good lighting and comfortable temperatures. The work can be tiring and physically demanding. Estheticians must be on their feet for long periods of time. This work is often carried out during evenings and weekends, when spas are busiest.

Tattoo artists and body piercers and modifiers are also included in this occupational group, and most apprentice to learn the trade. However, there are very few regulations or guidelines for these occupations in the province and the apprenticeship process is informal.

### Employment Outlook

Increased levels of consumption for beauty products have created demand for these occupations. The number of beauty treatments available to consumers has widely diversified in recent years, increasing employment opportunities for these occupations.

Professionals in this occupational group are employed in beauty salons, day spas, specialty shops, electrolysis studios, scalp treatment and hair replacement clinics, and retail establishments, or they may be self-employed. The average age of this occupation is 35, and the workforce is predominantly female.

### Typical Jobs

Hair Replacement Consultant  
Tattoo Artist  
Pedicurist  
Cosmetician  
Esthetician

### Related Occupations

Hairstylists and Barbers

# Firefighters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**920**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**35**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

In addition to fighting fires, firefighters assist in other emergencies and conduct fire prevention activities.

For example, they provide first aid and other assistance; ensure proper operation and maintenance of firefighting equipment; identify fire hazards and advise on appropriate steps toward fire prevention; train to maintain a high level of physical fitness; and may supervise and coordinate the work of other firefighters.

### Skills

To work as a firefighter, you must be in excellent health and physical condition. Mental alertness, courage, and mechanical aptitude are necessary. You must be able to perform under stress, react quickly, and be willing to take risks. Leadership and problem-solving skills are needed, as well as the ability to cooperate in a team effort.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is required. You may also be required to complete a program in fire protection technology or a related field, and have experience as a volunteer firefighter. Physical agility, strength, fitness, and vision requirements must be met through successful completion of screening tests. You must also pass an entrance exam and a medical exam to be eligible to work in this field. Senior firefighters, such as lieutenants and chiefs, must have several years of experience.

### Other Considerations

Most paid employment exists in the more heavily populated areas of the province, while smaller communities rely more upon volunteer firefighters. Firefighting is one of the most hazardous occupations, involving risk of injury and death.

### Employment Outlook

This is almost entirely a public service occupation, and employment prospects depend in large part on government spending, population growth, and buildings. This occupation has diversified and response to fire emergencies is now only one component of this occupation. Other emergency incidents which firefighters respond to involve hazardous materials, specialized rescue calls, medical aid, marine emergencies, and a wide variety of assistance to the public.

Computers are commonplace in the fire station and associated skills are necessary. In 2000, the average age of firefighters in Nova Scotia was 44, and it is anticipated that there will be job openings created due to retirements; firefighters tend to retire at a younger age than the average for most occupations.

### Typical Jobs

Fire Inspector  
Firefighter  
Firefighter Lieutenant  
Industrial Firefighter

### Related Occupations

Emergency Medical Technicians

# Food and Beverage Service Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**7120**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**214**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$7.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Food and beverage servers greet customers, make recommendations and answer questions about food and beverages, take the customers' orders, and serve them. Servers require a thorough knowledge of menu items and how they are prepared. Many servers prepare drinks and/or simple menu items; maintain inventory and control of bar stock; and present bills and accept payment. Hosts/hostesses and Maitres d'hôtel greet patrons, escort them to tables, and ensure that all customers receive good service. Depending on the establishment, the work environment can vary considerably, from casual to elegant and from hectic to sedate.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be friendly, well-spoken, well-groomed, and enthusiastic about the service. Good organizational and mathematical skills are necessary. You must be pleasant to both your customers and co-workers, even when working under pressure. The ability to remember details and orders is essential. You must also be able to move gracefully and quickly. Food and beverage service workers are on their feet most of the time and often have to carry heavy trays of food, dishes, and glassware, requiring physical fitness and stamina.

### Employment Requirements

- While previous related work experience is a main requirement for these jobs, more employers are also looking for people with at least a high school diploma.
- Educational training in the hospitality industry and knowledge of a second language are definite assets.
- Completion of courses in mixing drinks is usually required for bartenders.

### Other Considerations

Because these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Also, many job openings are created each year as workers in these occupations change jobs. However, due to the limited entry requirements, there are often many people available to fill these positions. They may work 40 hours or more per week, and many are expected to work evenings, weekends, and holidays. Tips usually supplement the wages of people employed in these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group with a young workforce. Turnover is common in these occupations, and there is relative ease of entry into new positions. Demand for these occupations increases during the summer months and moves in tandem with tourism to the province.

### Typical Jobs

Bartender  
Banquet Server  
Restaurant Host/Hostess  
Server  
Wine Steward

### Related Occupations

Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and  
Related Sales and Service  
Occupations



# Funeral Directors and Embalmers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**190**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Funeral directors coordinate and arrange all aspects of funeral services. They meet with the family of the deceased regarding the nature of the funeral service and funeral costs; oversee the preparation of the remains; plan and schedule funeral services; coordinate burials and cremation; and complete legal documents. Funeral directors also manage funeral home operations, including hiring and directing staff, maintaining financial records, preparing accounts, and ordering merchandise.

Embalmers prepare human remains for funerals and burials. They perform cosmetic and restorative work on the remains and supervise the embalming staff.

### Skills

Funeral directors and embalmers should be comfortable working with the deceased. You must be understanding, sympathetic, and able to comfort people in times of distress. Patience, emotional stability, and maturity are essential. You must show tact and consideration at all times, even if called at irregular hours.

### Employment Requirements

- Licensing by the Board of Registration of Embalmers and Funeral Directors is mandatory for this type of work.
- To become an embalmer, you must successfully complete a one-year funeral services course and a four-teen-month apprenticeship program, and pass both a written exam and a clinical exam at the end of your training. This exam is administered by the Board of Registration of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.
- To become a funeral director, you can complete either a twelve-month apprenticeship under the direction of a licensed funeral director, or a funeral services course and a six-month apprenticeship. In both cases, you must pass both a written and a practical exam at the end of your apprenticeship term.
- A valid driver's license is usually required.

### Employment Outlook

Employment levels are fairly stable from year to year, as the level of funeral activity does not vary significantly with economic conditions. Job openings are likely to be limited due to the small size of these occupations and the limited potential for growth.

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Demand for this occupation is not sensitive to overall economic conditions. The average age of this occupational group is 46 years, and all employment opportunities in the coming years will be related to retirements and attrition.

Consumer tastes determine the type of funeral or memorial service performed. An increasing number of cremations could negatively affect demand for embalmers.

### Typical Jobs

Funeral Director  
Embalmer  
Mortician  
Undertaker

### Related Occupations

Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors

# Hairstylists and Barbers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**2930**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**81**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$8.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Hairstylists cut and style hair, and perform related services. They may suggest hair styles that suit a client's physical features, or determine a style from a client's instructions and preferences. They shampoo and rinse hair; apply bleach, tint, dye, or rinses to colour hair; analyze hair and scalp conditions and provide basic treatment; or advise on beauty care treatments.

### Skills

For this work, you must have good manual dexterity, imagination, and creativity. Good communication, organization, and interpersonal skills are definite assets. You should be tactful, patient, and able to follow directions closely. You must be in good health. Business skills are a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- The minimum requirement for this work is a Junior Certificate, which is issued after passing an exam given by the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia, and most hairdressers have either a General or a Master's Licence. There are no such requirements for barbers.
- To qualify for a Junior Certificate, you must complete 1,250 hours of training under the direct supervision of a Master Hairdresser instructor and pass a theoretical and a practical exam given by the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia. An additional 960 hours of work experience will qualify you for a General Licence. A Master's Licence is available to those who have held a General Licence for at least two years.
- New licensing requirements have been implemented through the Cosmetology Act.
- The occupation of Hairstylist is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

Self-employment is common for these occupations. Earnings for people in these occupations are often supplemented by tips or gratuities. Therefore, an individual's income will likely depend upon their ability to attract and retain a group of clients. This work usually occurs in clean, pleasant surroundings with good lighting and comfortable temperatures. The work can be tiring and physically demanding. Hairdressers and estheticians must be on their feet for long periods of time. This work is often carried out during evenings and weekends, when salons are busiest.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified hairstylists.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group in Nova Scotia. Due to an increasingly fashion-conscious public, employment prospects are best for hairstylists. Employment of hairstylists and barbers is neither very seasonal nor particularly sensitive to overall economic conditions. Many hairstylists and barbers are self-employed and it is common for them to rent a chair in a salon or shop.

### Typical Jobs

Hair Colour Technician  
Hairstylist  
Barber

### Related Occupations

College and Other Vocational  
Instructors  
Estheticians, Electrologists, and  
Related Occupations

# Hotel Front Desk Clerks

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**640**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**33**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$8.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Hotel front desk clerks make room reservations, provide information and services to guests, and receive payment for services. They are employed by hotels, motels, and resorts.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. Good communication skills are also necessary. Knowledge of both official languages or an additional language may be required.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma or equivalent is usually required, and a certificate or diploma program in tourism and hospitality or hotel management may be required for positions in resorts or large hotels.
- Some on-the-job training is usually provided by the employer.
- Knowledge of a second language and work experience in the hospitality industry are assets.

### Other Considerations

Because many of these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity in Nova Scotia, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Also, general economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

The accommodations market has seen improved performance due to a resurgence of tourist demand and a strong market for domestic travel.

Domestic tourism and a trend towards shorter trips have positively impacted this industry and created demand in the accommodations industry for occupations such as hotel front desk clerks.

This workforce is relatively young, with an average age of approximately 33 years. It is expected that turnover will create some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Front Office Clerk  
Night Clerk  
Reservations Clerk  
Hotel Front Desk Clerk

### Related Occupations

Travel Counsellors

# Insurance Agents and Brokers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1500**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**54**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Insurance agents and real estate sales people act as representatives for the sale of services or goods. They respond to clients' inquiries, assist clients to assess their needs and resources, provide a market analysis, and promote sales. They assist prospective buyers in making offers of purchase. They draw up sales agreements, and they must ensure that all forms are properly filled out and policy requirements are met. They study market reports and advise clients on market conditions, prices, legal requirements, and related matters. Duties of real estate brokers include supervision of the sales team and ensuring that real estate transactions comply with regulatory requirements.

### Skills

To work in this field you need excellent communication and negotiation skills. The ability to analyze complex information accurately and quickly is necessary for decision-making. Computer skills would be a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school, on-the-job training, licensing courses, and industry-sponsored courses and training programs are generally required.
- Insurance agents and brokers in Nova Scotia must be licensed by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, Financial Institutions Section.

### Other Considerations

Increased competition in the insurance industry will likely result in a reduction in the number of businesses. Therefore, job opportunities may be limited for some of these occupations. Real estate activity is closely related to economic conditions in the area. Consequently, employment levels may vary substantially from one year to the next.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group. Demand for this occupation is tied to consumer spending on automobiles and houses, which are goods that require insurance coverage.

The increased use of client databases in this industry has resulted in productivity gains so agents can now handle a greater

volume of clients and sales.

The demand for insurance agents has also been negatively affected by the centralization of operations by many major insurance agencies and by agency mergers. Most job openings in the coming years are anticipated to result from retirements.

### Typical Jobs

Insurance Agent  
Insurance Broker

### Related Occupations

Insurance Underwriters

# Outdoor Sport and Recreation Guides

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**20**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**0**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Outdoor sport and recreational guides organize and conduct trips or expeditions for sports enthusiasts, tourists, and resort guests.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. A thorough understanding of safety requirements, environmental guidelines, and provincial regulations concerning hunting, fishing, and boating is required. Good communication skills are also necessary, as you will need to instruct tour participants in the proper handling of gear and safety

equipment, as well as convey how to follow regulations and guidelines. Knowledge of both official languages or an additional language is an asset. Physical fitness and stamina are required for many outdoor sport and recreational activities.

### Employment Requirements

- Depending on the activity, certification may be required.
- Outdoor sport and recreational guides, such as hunting guides, need to have knowledge of a particular terrain or body of water and demonstrated ability in the guided activity. Hunting and fishing guides must also be licensed by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. Licensing requires certification in first aid and CPR, and successful

completion of both a practical test and a written examination.

- Knowledge and understanding of the local environment and wildlife is a good background for eco-tourism.

### Other Considerations

Because many of these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity in Nova Scotia, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Also, general economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations. Most people in this occupation are either self-employed or work for a small to medium-sized business.

### Employment Outlook

Eco- and adventure tourism are growing in popularity, and this is expected to fuel demand for outdoor sport and recreational guides.

### Typical Jobs

Fishing Guide  
Outfitter  
Rafting Guide  
Hunting Guide  
Eco-tour Guide

### Related Occupations

Athletes, Coaches, Sports Officials, and Recreation Programmers  
Tour and Travel Guides

# Pet Groomers and Animal Care Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**540**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Pet groomers and animal care workers feed, handle, train, and groom animals, and assist veterinarians, animal health technologists, and animal breeders.

### Skills

This work demands good communication skills and the ability to cooperate with others. You must be able to pay close attention to detail. To work with animals, you must have good manual dexterity and be comfortable working with instruments and technology.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is usually required. Training courses in animal handling, grooming, or dog training may be required, depending on the type of work.
- Animal care workers may require courses in animal health or veterinary assisting.

### Employment Outlook

Persons in this occupation are employed by animal hospitals and clinics, animal shelters, breeding and boarding kennels, laboratories, retail pet shops, dog training schools, and pet grooming establishments, or they may be self-employed. Demand for this occupation is anticipated to be fair. There is a growing market for pet care, and pet owners are increasingly willing to spend money on such services. There is relative ease of entry into this occupation, with few formal entry requirements. Turnover in this occupation can be high due to low wages.

### Typical Jobs

Laboratory Animal Attendant  
Kennel Attendant  
Dog Trainer  
Zoo Attendant  
Veterinary Attendant

### Related Occupations

Veterinarians  
Animal Health Technicians  
Farm Supervisors, Horse Trainers, and Other Specialized Livestock Workers



# Police Officers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**2130**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**81**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$25.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Police officers protect the public, detect and prevent crimes, and perform other activities directed at maintaining law and order.

For example, they watch assigned areas to ensure public safety and to enforce laws and regulations, and they investigate crimes and accidents, secure evidence, interview witnesses, compile notes and reports, and provide testimony in court. They also arrest criminal suspects; provide emergency assistance to victims of accidents, crimes, and natural disasters; and participate in crime prevention, public information, and safety programs.

Police officers are also involved in community policing, where they work closely with the community to solve problems.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be physically fit and in excellent health. Cultural sensitivity, patience, and mental stability are important. You must be resourceful, able to give and take orders, and able to make decisions quickly. Excellent communication, observation, and problem-solving skills are essential. You should also be able to communicate with and gain the respect of the public.

### Employment Requirements

- Successful completion of high school with Mathematics 12 or Pre-calculus Mathematics and English 12 is required.
- A valid Nova Scotian or Canadian driver's or chauffeur's licence is also required for most of these occupations.
- To become a municipal police officer, you must be a Canadian citizen, nineteen years of age, of good health and physical development, and able to meet visual acuity and hearing standards. You must undergo a detailed records check for incidents related to criminal behaviour. You require successful completion of an approved police recruit or police science program. You must also have a valid first aid training program and a CPR certificate, a keyboard certificate of 25 words per minute, a Red Cross survival swimming course and rescue skills certificate, and a physical ability test and medical examination.
- The RCMP requires you to successfully complete a 24-week Cadet Training Program in Regina, Saskatchewan. To be eligible you must be a Canadian citizen, be of good character, be proficient in either official language, hold a valid unrestricted Canadian driver's license, be at least 19 years of age at time of engagement, meet physical/medical requirements, and be willing to relocate anywhere in Canada. A security clearance will be required, as well as a valid standard First Aid Certificate including CPR, and a passing score on the RCMP Police Aptitude Battery tests.
- Physical agility, strength, fitness, and vision requirements must be met to work in these occupations.
- Experienced police officers may take additional training and specialize in investigating and collecting evidence at crime scenes.

### Other Considerations

Earnings will generally increase with the officer's rank and years of service.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group in Nova Scotia. Demand for these occupations is dependent on retirements and the level of funding for the municipal police and the RCMP. For example, several new positions were recently created by Halifax Regional Police with the introduction of a traffic section. Public policy decisions and the level of government spending affect these occupations.

The average age of retirement for municipal police officers is 50 to 55. In 2000, the average age of police officers in Nova Scotia was 40. Some job openings due to retirements can be anticipated in the coming years. Both the municipal police force and the federal RCMP have a long selection process and a prolonged period of training. Therefore, there may be a lag between recruitment and the fulfillment of staffing needs. In the past, a large group of officers have been trained and hired at one time. Retirements may follow a similar pattern, with a bulk of retirements occurring every few years.

### Typical Jobs

Crime Prevention Constable  
Highway Patrol Officer  
Police Sergeant  
Military Police Officer  
Municipal Police Officer  
Crime Scene Investigator

### Related Occupations

Biological Technicians and Technologists  
Sheriffs and Bailiffs  
By-Law Enforcement and Other Regulatory Officers  
Private Investigators and Other Protective Service Occupations



# Private Investigators and Other Protective Service Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
210

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
14

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$11.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Private investigators conduct private investigations for clients and employers. Corporate security and retail loss prevention officers conduct private investigations for their clients in addition to other protective services. For example, they must put in place security measures to protect property against theft and fire.

### Skills

You should be physically fit and in excellent health, and have a valid driver's licence. Cultural sensitivity, patience, and mental stability are important. You must be resourceful and able to work on your own carrying out instructions given by your employer. It will be necessary to gain a good knowledge of the regulations pertaining to your work. Excellent communication, observation, and problem-solving skills are essential. You should also be able to communicate with and gain the respect of the public. Candidates are required to pass the appropriate background check.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is required.
- A diploma in law and security may be required for some positions.
- On-the-job training may be provided.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects will differ for the various occupations included in this group. Demand should be greatest for retail loss prevention officers and security officers who are employed by large retail and pharmacy stores.

The average age of this occupational group is approximately 45 years, and retirements should contribute to some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Private Security Officer  
Corporate Security Officer  
Postal Inspection Officer  
Store Detective  
Retail Loss Prevention Officer

### Related Occupations

Police Officers

# Pursers and Flight Attendants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**430**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$22.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Flight pursers and flight attendants are employed by airline companies to ensure the safety and comfort of passengers and crew members during flights. The flight purser coordinates the activities of the flight attendants. Ship pursers are employed by tour or cruise boat companies and attend to the safety and comfort of passengers aboard ships. They also supervise ship attendants.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. You must be able to work long hours in confined spaces and be able to cope with turbulence and other conditions. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. This work may require being away from home for extended periods of time. Knowledge of the travel business or the specific areas of tourism in which you work will be required. Good communication skills are essential. Knowledge of both official languages or an additional language may be required.

### Employment Requirements

- While previous related work experience is an asset for these jobs, employers generally also expect at least a high school diploma. Educational training in the hospitality industry is a definite asset. Some on-the-job training is usually provided by the employer for many occupations in this group. Height restrictions may apply.
- Flight attendants are required to complete high school and a Transport Canada-approved training program. Major airlines generally provide training to new flight attendants.
- Air Canada requires that all flight attendants speak at least two languages, have completed high school and at least two years of customer service experience, be physically fit, possess a valid Canadian passport, and be willing to be posted at any one of six bases in Canada. Minimum qualifications also include excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Candidates must be able to obtain an Airport Restricted Area Access Pass.

### Other Considerations

General economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

Prospects for these occupations are linked to the performance of the airline industry and the travel and tourism industries. The recent restructuring of commercial airlines and the financial difficulties of Air Canada led to layoffs in this occupational group in 2004. The airline industry has since stabilized and there has been growth for discount airlines. An upswing in the travel and tourism industries, buoyed by economic growth and consumer confidence, should create demand for these occupations.

This is not a large occupational group in Nova Scotia, and the workforce is relatively young. Job competition for these openings is keen, and fluency in several languages is an asset when competing for these positions.

### Typical Jobs

Flight Attendant  
Flight Purser  
Passenger Service Director  
Ship Purser

### Related Occupations

Food and Beverage Service Occupations  
Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and Related Sales and Service Occupations

# Real Estate Agents and Salespersons

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1300**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**42**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Real estate agents and salespersons act as agents for the sale or purchase of houses, apartments, commercial buildings, land, and other real estate, and are employed in the real estate industry.

### Skills

To work in this field you need excellent communication and negotiation skills. The ability to analyze complex information accurately and quickly is necessary for decision-making. Computer skills would be a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school, on-the-job training, licensing courses, and industry-sponsored courses and training programs are generally required.
- To be eligible for licensing as a real estate salesperson requires successful completion of the real estate salesperson's course and examination (pass mark of 70%). Usually three years of successful employment as a salesperson and successful completion of a broker's licensing course is required before becoming licensed as a real estate broker.
- Real estate salespersons must apply for licensing through the Nova Scotia Real Estate Commission.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is affected by the strength of the resale and new home housing markets. It is anticipated that the declining trend seen in these markets in the past few years will continue. This is a fairly large occupation in Nova Scotia, and retirements and attrition are expected to contribute to job openings in the coming years.

It is increasingly common for real estate agents to operate as independent contractors for brokerage organizations whereby a fee is paid for office space, clerical services, and the right to market under the firm's name.

### Typical Jobs

Commercial Real Estate Salesperson  
Residential Real Estate Salesperson  
Real Estate Broker

### Related Occupations

Assessors and Appraisers  
Property Administrators  
Purchasing Agents and Officers  
Financial Planners and Other Financial Officers

# Retail and Wholesale Buyers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**630**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**30**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Retail and wholesale buyers buy goods for resale by retail outlets and wholesale firms. They are usually responsible for the merchandising plan for the goods they purchase. This would include developing sales projections, plans for displaying the goods, and point-of-sale advertising.

### Skills

To work in this field you need excellent communication and negotiation skills. The ability to analyze complex information accurately and quickly is necessary for decision-making. Computer skills would be a definite asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Retail and wholesale buyers are usually required to have a high school diploma, a bachelor's degree or diploma in business administration, marketing or a related program, and experience as a sales supervisor or sales representative.

### Employment Outlook

Advances in computerized inventory systems have affected employment opportunities for this group. In many stores, inventories are now tracked at the checkout counter and goods can be automatically reordered as needed. Mergers and the consolidation of purchasing departments have also negatively affected demand for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Buyer, Wholesale  
Buyer, Retail  
Merchandiser

### Related Occupations

Purchasing Agents and Officers

# Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**16840**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**417**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Sales associates in retail stores greet customers and discuss the type, quality, and quantity of merchandise; quote prices; and make sale, delivery, and payment arrangements.

### Skills

For this work, you should have good interpersonal and communication skills. Patience, tact, and enthusiasm are important. You must always be alert to the customers' needs and be as helpful and efficient as possible. Basic math skills and product knowledge are also needed. Knowledge of another language, especially French, is an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Generally, completion of high school is preferred to gain employment in this field. Knowledge of the product is highly desirable, and may be required for sales of highly technical or expensive merchandise, such as automobiles or computers.
- There are an increasing number of college and university-level retail-specific programs for those interested in developing a career in retailing.

### Other Considerations

Many positions are filled by part-time employees, who are required to work in the evenings and on weekends. Hours of work will depend on the needs of the employer. Earnings vary throughout the year due to the fact that part-time sales clerks have their hours increased or decreased according to sales levels. Also, wages are often supplemented with sales commissions.

People in these occupations must be on their feet for long periods of time.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is sensitive to overall economic conditions. The employment outlook is good for this occupation because strong consumer confidence and a robust economy are expected to expand retail sales over the forecast period. The continuing strength of the Canadian economy and a steady interest rate are expected to continue to drive consumer confidence levels, resulting in sustained growth in expenditure and retail sales. This will create demand for retail salespersons and sales clerks.

This is a very large occupational group, with approximately 16,000 workers across the province. Turnover is unusually high in this occupation; there is a continuous demand for employees and generally a large supply of labour. Demand for this occupation is heightened during times of consumer spending, for example Christmas.

This is a relatively young occupational group, with an average age of approximately 34 years. In recent years, large retail chains have expanded in Nova Scotia and are capturing an increasing amount of market share in the retail industry. This has increased demand for this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Sales Clerk  
Clothing Sales Associate  
Computer Sales Associate - Retail  
Car Rental Agent  
Automobile Sales Agent

### Related Occupations

Sales Representatives, Wholesale Trade  
Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and Related Sales and Service Occupations

# Sales Representatives, Wholesale Trade

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**4910**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**142**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Sales representatives in non-technical wholesale trade sell goods and services to retail, wholesale, commercial, industrial, and professional clients. For example, they work for organizations that produce goods and services, such as food, beverage, and tobacco producers, manufacturers, hotels, business service firms, and transportation companies.

Wholesale trade representatives must identify potential clients, then prepare presentations on goods or services, including estimates of price, conditions, and delivery date. They must also ensure accuracy of details in contracts and follow up with

clients to provide on-going support and to resolve problems.

Sales representatives must keep track of product innovations, competitors, and market conditions as well.

### Skills

This work requires excellent interpersonal and communication skills. You must be aware of customers' needs and give careful attention to detail. Strong marketing skills, as well as computer proficiency, are important for this occupation.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school and experience in sales or in an occupation related to the product or service are required. In some

industries a bachelor's degree or a diploma may also be required.

- Supervisors and senior sales representatives are required to have fairly extensive experience in the industry.
- Fluency in a second language and/or travel experience is an asset for employment with import/export companies.
- Voluntary certification is available from the Canadian Professional Sales Association.

### Other Considerations

Earnings will often depend upon the type of product being sold and the volume of sales made. People in these occupations should be prepared to keep up with changes in product lines and sales methods.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is sensitive to overall economic conditions. Approximately 80% of this workforce is male.

### Typical Jobs

Security Sales Representative  
Transfer Company Agent  
Magazine Sales Representative  
Hotel Accommodation Sales Executive  
Liquor Sales Representative  
Food Products Sales Representative

### Related Occupations

Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks  
Technical Sales Specialists, Wholesale Trade

# Sheriffs and Bailiffs

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**90**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Sheriffs execute and enforce court orders, warrants and writs, participate in seizure and sale of property, and perform courtroom and other related duties. Bailiffs serve legal orders and documents, seize or repossess property, evict tenants, and perform other related activities; they may work in private service.

### Skills

You should be physically fit and in excellent health. Cultural sensitivity, patience, and mental stability are important. You must be resourceful and able to work on your own carrying out instructions given by your employer. It will be necessary to gain a good knowledge of the regulations pertaining to your work. Excellent

communication, observation, and problem-solving skills are essential. You should also be able to communicate with and gain the respect of the public. Candidates are required to pass the appropriate background check.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a sheriff's officer, you must have completed Grade 12, have previous police/military/correctional/security training and/or experience, and have three years of related experience. Working knowledge of the Sheriffs Act, Costs and Fees Act, Criminal Code, Provincial Statutes, and Civil Procedure Rules is required. A valid Nova Scotia driver's licence is also required.

- Bailiffs require some work experience relevant to law enforcement and knowledge of relevant statutes and law.

### Employment Outlook

The provincial government is the sole employer of this very small occupational group. There is little turnover in these occupations and it is anticipated that retirements will be the sole source of job openings in the coming years.

The average age of sheriffs and bailiffs is approximately 47 years; despite this, the number of job openings due of retirements will be limited due to the small size of this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Bailiff  
Sheriff  
Sheriff's Bailiff  
Sheriff's Officer

### Related Occupations

Police Officers  
Administrative Support Clerks  
Correctional Service Officers



# Store Clerks, Kitchen Helpers, and Related Sales and Service Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**47390**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**1208**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$8.75 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

This group includes many entry-level sales and service occupations that require working with the public and do not require a high level of strength.

Cashiers, grocery clerks, and service station attendants must serve customers, receive and record payment, and answer inquiries. Some positions such as telemarketer require soliciting sales.

Hospital and other clinic assistants provide assistance with scheduling of users, physical arrangements, and clerical work or record-keeping.

Kitchen and food service helpers perform various activities to assist with food preparation and service. People who work as food service counter attendants prepare simple food items and serve customers.

Security guards guard property against theft and vandalism, control access to establishments, and maintain order at public events.

Light-duty cleaners clean buildings such as offices, hospitals, hotels, and schools. Recreation attendants assist patrons, collect tickets and fees, and supervise the use of recreation and sports equipment.

## Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and manual dexterity. You must also be able to work on your own and carry out instructions given by a supervisor. Sales and service workers are expected to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

## Employment Requirements

- There are no formal requirements for most occupations in this group; however, some employers require completion of high school and some experience in the service being provided.
- You must be at least sixteen years of age to work in these fields.
- In-house training as a security guard for private companies or institutions may be provided on the job.
- Private guards for hire are required to obtain a licence from the Policing and Victim Services Division of the N.S. Department of Justice.

## Other Considerations

Work in these occupations tends to be seasonal, with employment levels peaking in the summer months.

## Employment Outlook

Employment prospects differ for the various occupations included in this group. The largest occupations included in this group are cashiers and food-service counter attendants. These occupations have a young workforce and a high rate of turnover due to low wages. There is relative ease of entry into these occupations and a large supply of potential labour.

The greatest number of retirements in this occupational group is expected for ironing, pressing, and finishing occupations, which have an average age of about 53 years. The youngest workforce in this occupational group is service station attendants, with an average age of 23 years. Generally, there are few opportunities for advancement for this occupational group.

## Typical Jobs

Telemarketer  
Security Guard  
Service Station Attendant  
Cashier  
Custodian  
Dry Cleaner  
Hotel Housekeeper

## Related Occupations

Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks  
Food and Beverage Service Occupations  
Private Investigators and Other Protective Service Occupations

# Teacher Assistants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2980**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**88**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Teacher assistants work with teachers and counsellors in schools and treatment centres. They assist students with lessons or help the teacher in preparing the classroom and learning materials. They may provide assistance to special needs students; provide support in the school library; or supervise students in the gym, lab, library, or resource centre, or on field trips.

### Skills

You should enjoy working with children. Good health and physical stamina are needed. You must be

patient, imaginative, and resourceful. The ability to communicate ideas in a clear, concise, and pleasant manner is also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required, and some positions may require college courses in child care.
- Teacher assistants who aid students with special needs may be required to have specialized training and experience.

### Employment Outlook

This is a medium-sized occupational group. Employment growth for this

occupation depends on programming and expenditure decisions by government and school boards. Any future changes in legislation regarding educational requirements and student supervision will impact the number of elementary and secondary school teacher assistants.

Nova Scotia's aging population and corresponding decline in birth rates will also affect demand for this occupation, as it is anticipated that there will be some declines in enrolment at the elementary and secondary school levels in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Special Education Assistant  
Teacher's Aide  
Educational Assistant  
Education Program Assistant  
Lunch Room Supervisor

### Related Occupations

School Teachers, School Counsellors, and School Librarians  
Early Childhood Educators and Assistants

# Technical Sales Specialists, Wholesale Trade

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2780**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**89**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Technical sales specialists in wholesale trade sell and represent a range of technical goods and services. As part of their job, they identify potential clients, assess clients' needs and resources, provide input into product design where necessary, and promote sales. They also estimate the costs of installing and maintaining equipment, develop proposals, and prepare reports and sales contracts. Technical sales specialists follow up with clients to provide ongoing support and resolve problems.

### Skills

This work requires excellent interpersonal and communication skills. You must be aware of the customer's needs and give careful attention to detail. You will be required to gain in-depth knowledge of the products you represent.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a degree or diploma program related to the product or service is usually required.
- Experience in sales or in a technical occupation related to the product or service may be required.
- Fluency in a second language and/or travel experience may be an asset for employment in import/export companies.
- Technical sales supervisors are required to have experience as technical sales specialists.

### Other Considerations

Earnings will often depend upon the type of product being sold and the volume of sales made. People in these occupations will have to keep abreast of technological changes in the products they sell.

### Employment Outlook

This occupation is somewhat affected by the cycles of the economy. The role of technical sales specialists has broadened to include product development through identifying customer's needs. Technology in this field is rapidly evolving and it is important for technical sales specialists to stay abreast of changing product lines. The use of electronic databases for customer information is common, and many employers look for individuals with computer skills. This is a large occupational group, with a predominantly male workforce. The average age of the workforce is 38 years, and retirements and attrition are expected to contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Medical Instrumentation Sales Engineer  
Technical Support Specialist  
Industrial Supplies Sales Representative  
Construction Equipment Sales Representative  
Communication Equipment Sales Representative

### Related Occupations

Sales Representatives, Wholesale Trade  
Retail Salespersons and Sales Clerks

# Ticket and Cargo Agents

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
90

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
2

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These are individuals who provide booking assistance to travellers and tourists, and who work for employers other than airlines. They make reservations and prepare tickets. They may also advise clients on travel options and tour packages. Cargo agents quote fares and rates and process cargo shipments.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. Knowledge of the travel business will be required. Good communication skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- While previous related work experience is an asset for these jobs, employers generally also expect at least a high school diploma.
- Up to 10 weeks of training is usually provided by the employer.

### Other Considerations

Because many of these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity in Nova Scotia, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Also, general economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

This is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Online ticket sales are available for the railway industry, whereas bus tickets can only be purchased at the station. Online

ticket sales may reduce demand for railway ticket agents.

This occupation has a young workforce, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Bus Ticket Agent  
Cargo Customer Service Representative  
Railway Passenger Agent

### Related Occupations

Travel Counsellors  
Airline Sales and Service Agents

# Tour and Travel Guides

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
200

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
7

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Tour guides escort individuals and groups on short trips and sightseeing tours of cities, historical sites, famous buildings, manufacturing sites, and cathedrals. Travel guides escort individuals and tour groups on business and vacation trips, often acting as tour guides, as well as planning recreational activities and taking care of problems with itineraries, service, or accommodations.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. Knowledge of the travel business or the specific areas of tourism in which you work will be required. Good communication skills are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- These jobs require at least some high school education along with related work experience, and employers generally prefer at least a high school diploma. Some on-the-job training is usually provided by the employer.

- Knowledge of a second language is a definite asset, and fluency in both official languages may be required.

### Other Considerations

Because many of these jobs are heavily influenced by tourism activity in Nova Scotia, employment levels tend to vary throughout the year and peak in the summer months. Also, general economic conditions will have an impact on the level of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels will vary from year to year in many of these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects for this occupational group are linked to the strength of the tourist industry in Nova Scotia. The popularity of adventure tourism and active vacations is expected to increase demand for non-traditional tour services in the coming years. Growth is expected in eco-tourism.

### Typical Jobs

Sightseeing Guide  
Factory Tour Guide  
Tour Guide  
Travel Guide

### Related Occupations

Museum Technicians, Interpreters, and Curatorial Assistants  
Outdoor Sport and Recreation Guides

# Travel Counsellors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**710**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**13**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Travel counsellors advise clients on travel options and tour packages, make bookings and reservations, prepare tickets, and receive payment. They work for travel agencies, transportation and tourism firms, and hotel chains.

### Skills

For this type of work, you should be poised, organized, tactful, and patient. Interpersonal skills and the ability to deal comfortably with strangers are important. You should be resourceful and able to handle the unexpected. Knowledge of the travel business will be required. Good communication skills are also necessary. Knowledge of both official

languages or an additional language may be required for some positions.

### Employment Requirements

- Travel counsellors are generally required to obtain a diploma or vocational training in travel or tourism, and certification with the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors (CITC). A Certified Travel Counsellor designation is granted after three years of work experience in the industry and the completion of mandatory courses and examinations. A number of community college programs are recognized by CITC.

### Other Considerations

General economic conditions will have an impact on the level

of business and pleasure travel undertaken by Nova Scotians. Therefore, employment levels may vary from year to year.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is linked to the strength of the tourist industry. Nationally, the tourist industry has been positively impacted by economic growth and strong consumer confidence, although a rise in the value of the Canadian dollar has motivated outgoing travel and resulted in a slight decline of incoming visitors from the United States. The trend towards shorter trips has bolstered the domestic market.

The growth of online reservation systems for airline and accommodation booking may

negatively impact demand for travel counselors. Therefore, demand for travel counselors is expected to decline over the forecast period.

The average age of travel counselors is approximately 36 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Travel Agent  
Travel Counsellor

### Related Occupations

Conference and Event Planners  
Airline Sales and Service Agents

# Visiting Homemakers and Housekeepers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1400**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**35**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$10.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

People in these jobs help people get through their daily routine at home. They often work for those who are incapacitated, recovering from an injury or illness, or experiencing a family disruption. Home healthcare workers provide personal support in areas such as bathing, personal hygiene, dressing, and moving around. Under the supervision of a healthcare professional, they may perform health-related duties such as changing dressings, administering medications, and collecting specimens. They also prepare meals and do routine housekeeping.

Companions help clients who are elderly or recovering from an illness by providing personal care in the client's home. They also provide companionship for clients who would otherwise be alone.

Foster parents care for foster children in their homes. This is usually on an emergency or temporary basis. Under the direction of social workers, they administer therapeutic programs for foster children.

### Skills

To work in this field, you should have good interpersonal skills and a desire to help others. Patience and the ability to handle stressful situations may be needed. You must be efficient, yet sensitive to the needs of clients.

### Employment Requirements

- In Nova Scotia, the Department of Health and the continuing care industry now classify both personal care workers and home healthcare workers as continuing care assistants. Completion of a certificate program that includes

hands-on training in long-term care and home support is required to work as a continuing care assistant.

- There are no formal education requirements for the other occupations, although child-care or home-management experience may be required.
- A first-aid certificate may be required.

### Other Considerations

Employment opportunities are often part-time or casual, with shift work required. People in these occupations may be required to work in various locations over the period of a day.

### Employment Outlook

Increases in home health care are fueling opportunities for some of the occupations included in this grouping, for example home

support workers. Nova Scotia's aging population will continue to create demand for these services. Growth in the number of dual-income families has contributed to demand for housekeepers.

This is an overwhelmingly female occupational group, with an average age of approximately 43 years. Retirements are expected to contribute to job openings in the coming years. Turnover for some of the occupations included in this group can be high due to low wages.

### Typical Jobs

Home Health Care Worker  
Companion  
Foster Parent  
Home Support Worker

### Related Occupations

Babysitters and Nannies  
Continuing Care Assistants and Health Support Workers



Trades, Transport  
and Equipment  
Operators, and  
Related Occupations





# Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**560**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**25**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$23.50 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Aircraft technicians maintain and repair aircraft structures and mechanical systems.

They troubleshoot these systems to identify problems, and adjust and repair systems according to specifications and established procedures. They also dismantle airframes and aircraft engines for repair or overhaul, then reassemble them. Aircraft inspectors inspect structural and mechanical systems of aircraft and certify that these systems meet standards of performance and safety.

Nova Scotia's aviation industry focuses on maritime aviation, composition fabrication, and electronic assemblies.

## Skills

This work requires excellent spatial and form perception, agility, and coordination. You must be physically fit and have good eyesight and hearing. The ability to follow instructions and perform with a high degree of accuracy is essential. An interest in electronics, machine work, and general mechanics may be helpful.

## Employment Requirements

- Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineers (AMEs) are representatives of the Minister of Transport and have exclusive authority to sign maintenance releases attesting to the integrity of aircraft, aircraft systems, and their components.
- The AME licensing system differentiates specialized areas with licence category designators, e.g. 'M' (Aircraft Maintenance), 'E' (Avionics), 'S' (Structures), 'P' (Propulsion Systems).
- To qualify for an AME licence, you must complete an approved basic training course, a specified apprenticeship period, and a Transport Canada regulations exam. Please contact your local Transport Canada Centre (Civil Aviation) for further information.

## Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is tied to the strength of the aerospace industry in Nova Scotia, which is expected to have steady growth in the coming years. Aviation manufacturing is expected to grow in the coming years. Also, due to an expanding, more complex fleet, aging aircraft, and mounting regulations, aviation maintenance activity is expected to grow strongly in the next 20 years. Due to growth projections for the industry and its aging workforce, employment prospects are rated as good in the coming years.

## Typical Jobs

Aircraft Engine Repair and Overhaul Technician  
Aircraft Inspector  
Aircraft Maintenance Technician  
Aircraft Mechanic

## Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Boilermakers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**60**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**1**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Boilermakers fabricate, assemble, erect, and repair boilers; read blueprints or specifications to plan operations; and set up and operate heavy metalworking machines.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical aptitude. You must be resourceful and able to make decisions. Good form perception, physical strength, coordination, and agility are important.

### Employment Requirements

- Boilermaker is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia

employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Advances in technology, new materials, higher-quality welds and welding material, and larger lifts and lifting capacity have created many changes in this occupation. The increased size and complexity of construction projects, often in remote areas, contributes to an increasingly competitive contractor environment and to a very mobile trade.

Boilermakers are generally mobile and move to where there is employment.

The work of a boilermaker is extremely hazardous, due to the possibility of exposure to materials and gases that could create health

problems. Attention to safety and accident prevention are very important for this occupation.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program. Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified boilermakers.

### Employment Outlook

Boilermakers are employed in a wide variety of establishments such as manufacturing, shipbuilding, construction, electric power generation, and offshore industries. Large construction projects such as new school construction in the Halifax area should create demand for this occupation in the coming years.

This is not a large occupational group. The average age of boilermakers in Nova Scotia is approximately 44 years, and retirements should contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Boiler Installer  
Boiler Shop Mechanic  
Boilermaker

### Related Occupations

Welders  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Structural Metal and Platemwork  
Fabricators and Fitters  
Ironworkers

# Bricklayers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**420**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Bricklayers lay concrete blocks, bricks, stone, and other similar materials to construct or repair walls and other structures according to blueprint specifications.

Also, they build chimneys and fireplaces, line or reline furnaces, construct and install prefabricated masonry units, and build patios, garden walls, and other decorative structures.

### Skills

This work requires a sense of balance, an eye for line and proportion, and the ability to work with precision. You should be in excellent physical condition, coordinated, and comfortable working at heights. The ability to follow instructions and

cooperate with others is important. A good imagination and creative ability are also assets in this trade.

### Employment Requirements

- High school graduation and completion of a four-year apprenticeship program are required to become a bricklayer in Nova Scotia.
- Bricklayer and Restoration Stonemason are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Certification for bricklayers is compulsory.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions. As a result, workers in these occupations

should be prepared for periods of unemployment. Also, many work on a project basis and can expect periods of unemployment throughout the year. The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified bricklayers.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is influenced by trends in the construction industry, particularly residential construction. New housing construction is expected to decline in the coming years, which will negatively affect demand for this

occupation. Non-residential construction should continue to have steady growth. Retrofit and restoration work should create some demand for this occupation as it is anticipated that there will continue to be growth in the home renovations market.

### Typical Jobs

Stonemason  
Brickmason  
Chimney Builder  
Restoration Stonemason  
Stonecutter

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Concrete Finishers  
Tilersetters

# Bus Drivers and Other Transit Drivers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1870**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**72**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Bus drivers may drive city transit or intercity buses, or school buses. They provide passengers with information, collect fares, and ensure passengers' safety. Tour bus drivers take passengers on local sightseeing trips or longer tours. Some tour bus drivers also provide information on points of interest during the trip.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should enjoy driving and be able to function under minimal supervision. You must be alert, responsible, and self-motivated. An awareness of safety is important. You must also get along well with people, as drivers often deal directly with customers. For some jobs, you should be willing to drive long distances and for extended periods of time.

### Employment Requirements

- To become a bus driver, you must be at least 19 years of age and have a Class Two driver's licence. A minimum of one year of safe driving experience is required. An air brakes endorsement or first aid certificate may be required for some positions.
- You may require a high school diploma.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group, with a workforce of approximately 1,900 across Nova Scotia. Bus drivers are employed by urban transit systems, elementary and secondary schools, and private transportation companies; demand for this occupation is affected by funding for these services and by expansion of transit activities. (Streetcar, subway, and light rail transit are not in use in Nova Scotia.)

Employment prospects differ across the province and are best in the Halifax area. This occupation has an older workforce with an average age of approximately 49 years, and retirements are expected to contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Transit Operator  
School Bus Driver Supervisor  
Driver, Public Passenger Transit  
Motor Coach Operator  
School Bus Driver

### Related Occupations

Tour and Travel Guides  
Taxi and Limousine Drivers and Chauffeurs

# Cabinetmakers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**200**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Cabinetmakers construct and repair wooden cabinets, furniture, fixtures and related products.

### Skills

This work requires good hand-eye coordination, spatial perception, and material handling abilities. You should be in excellent physical condition and be willing to work under adverse weather conditions and at heights from ladders, staging, and rooftops. You must also be able to follow instructions and cooperate with others as part of a team. Some artistic ability is an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school, college, or industry courses in carpentry with some experience in the trade, or completion of a four-year apprenticeship program, is required to become a cabinetmaker.
- Cabinet Maker is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Apprenticeship training is currently unavailable in Nova Scotia, although you may contact the Nova Scotia Department of Education, Apprenticeship Training Division, to arrange for a certification exam.

### Other Considerations

Cabinetmakers are employed by furniture manufacturing or repair companies, construction companies, and cabinetmaking contractors, or they may be self-employed.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified carpenters and cabinet carpenters.

### Employment Outlook

Increasingly, cabinets are built in factories rather than made to order; made-to-order cabinets have become a specialty good. The strength of the home renovations market in Nova Scotia as well as residential and non-residential construction should create demand for this occupation the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Cabinetmaker  
Cabinet Carpenter  
Custom Wood Furniture Maker

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related Carpenters

# Cable Television Service and Maintenance Technicians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
80

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
2

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$12.00 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Telecommunications installation and repair workers and cable television service technicians install, arrange, remove, and maintain telephone equipment and cable outlets. They must test installed equipment and repair or replace defective and damaged telephone wire, cable television signals, and associated equipment. This work requires operating computerized testing systems to conduct service tests on customer lines and equipment; identifying service problems; arranging for repair; working with fibre optics media; and completing reports of service calls. Climbing and working on poles, ladders, or other support structures is a requirement of the job.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical and electrical aptitude. You should have a strong background in mathematics and the sciences. Accuracy and a keen eye for detail are important. Good eyesight, colour vision, and hand-eye coordination are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required.
- Cable television service and maintenance technicians are required to complete a combination of college or industry courses related to electronics and electrical systems, and obtain some on-the-job experience.

### Other Considerations

This occupation is employed by telephone providers and cable television companies. The availability of high-speed Internet through cable lines has added to the complexity of this occupation. Digital phone services, which are already available in other parts of Canada, may become available in Nova Scotia in the future. Changes in digital technology will require that workers in this occupation upgrade their skills.

### Employment Outlook

Advances in telecommunications and multi-media technology and the ways in which they are delivered to customers may affect the type of work performed and job prospects in these occupations.

It is anticipated that much of the research into telecommunications technology in the coming years will focus on wireless technology. Ultimately, this will reduce dependency on telecommunications lines and cable infrastructure. The adoption of such technology in Nova Scotia would negatively affect demand for this occupational group. This is not a large occupational group in Nova Scotia, with approximately 80 individuals.

### Typical Jobs

Cable Television Installer  
Cablevision Servicer  
Maintenance Technician, Cable Television

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Telecommunications Line and Cable Workers

# Carpenters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**4600**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**80**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.00 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Carpenters construct, erect, install, maintain and repair structures and components of structures made of wood, wood-substitutes and other materials. They are employed by construction companies, carpentry contractors, and maintenance departments of factories, plants, and other establishments, or they may be self-employed.

### Skills

This work requires good hand-eye coordination, spatial perception, and material handling abilities. You should be in excellent physical condition and be willing to work under adverse weather conditions and at heights from ladders, staging, and rooftops. You must also be able to follow instructions and cooperate with others as part of a team. Some artistic ability is an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school, college, or industry courses in carpentry with some experience in the trade, or completion of a four-year apprenticeship program, is required to become a carpenter. Carpenter is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or have a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions. As a result, workers in these occupations should be prepared for periods of unemployment. Also, many work on a project basis and can expect periods of unemployment throughout the year. The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyperson rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified carpenters.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for carpenters is affected by construction and renovations activity. Although housing construction is expected to continue to decline in the coming years, renovations activity is expected to increase and this should contribute to demand for carpenters.

This is a large occupational group, with an average age of 41 years.

### Typical Jobs

Finish Carpenter  
Maintenance Carpenter  
Carpenter

### Related Occupations

Boat Builders, Furniture Assemblers, and Related Occupations  
Machining, Metalworking, Woodworking, and Related Machine Occupations  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Cabinetmakers



# Commercial Divers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**60**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**3**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.25 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Commercial divers perform underwater tasks related to construction, inspection, search, salvage, repair, seafood harvesting, aquaculture, and photography.

For example, they perform offshore oil and gas exploration/extraction duties, and operate underwater video/film production, sonar, and recording equipment. Also, they inspect vessels, buoyancy systems, and pipelines; perform underwater construction duties; set up and detonate explosives; and participate in search and rescue operations. In addition, they are required to check and maintain diving equipment.

### Skills

Divers should be adventurous yet cautious, alert, and able to remain

calm under stress. Physical stamina and good health may also be necessary. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude are important. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by supervisors.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of a recognized commercial diving school program is required. Recognized programs will meet CSA Canada standard Z275.4, "Competency Standard for Diving Operations." Certification is available through the Diver Certification Board of Canada. As of May 1, 2006, commercial divers must meet the requirements of the new Nova Scotia Occupational Diving Regulations.

- A provincial blaster's licence for the setting and detonation of explosives is usually required to work as an underwater blaster. Blasters must be certified by the Board of Examiners at the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, and must be at least 19 years old.

### Other Considerations

Most successful commercial divers have an additional specialty such as welding or electronics.

### Employment Outlook

Experienced divers often move on to open their own contracting services or open dive centres. Construction divers may advance to management or supervisory positions in construction firms. Experienced

divers may also become instructors for hobby divers.

This is very small occupational group, with a workforce of approximately 60, and the number of employers is limited. The workforce is relatively young, with an average age of 31 years.

### Typical Jobs

Seafood Harvester  
Underwater Contractor  
Underwater Film Production  
Equipment Operator  
Underwater Welder  
Offshore Diver

### Related Occupations

Police Officer  
Welders  
Canadian Forces Occupations

# Concrete Finishers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**220**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**0**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.50 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Concrete finishers smooth, finish, and apply surface treatments to freshly poured concrete. They make and restore such structures as foundations and floors for houses, sidewalks, patios, roads, and high-rise buildings.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have physical stamina, agility, and coordination, and be capable of climbing, reaching, crouching, and handling heavy materials. While most of the work is done indoors, you must be willing to work outdoors and at heights. You must be able to perform basic mathematical calculations, and read blueprints and drafting specifications.

### Employment Requirements

- Concrete Finisher is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The majority of workers in these occupations work full-time, but many are employed for only part of the year. Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions. As a result, workers in these occupations should be prepared

for periods of unemployment. Also, many work on a project basis and can expect periods of unemployment throughout the year. Work in these occupations tends to be seasonal, with employment peaking in the summer months. The physical demands of this work may make it difficult for people to stay in these jobs for a long time.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified concrete finishers.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is linked to commercial, industrial, and infrastructure construction in Nova Scotia. Due to the contract nature

of this work, some employees find themselves changing employers in an attempt to gain longer periods of employment. Concrete finishers with the ability to lead a crew and do form work are most in demand.

### Typical Jobs

Cement Finisher  
Cement Mason  
Concrete Finisher

### Related Occupations

Bricklayers  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Construction and Other Trades Helpers and Labourers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2980**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**15**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Construction trades helpers and labourers help skilled tradespersons and perform labouring duties at construction sites. Labourers help install and repair equipment and machinery in a wide variety of settings, including industry, transportation, refrigeration and air conditioning, and telecommunications.

### Skills

You need good health, physical stamina and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must be able to take direction and be able to carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education is usually required.
- Some experience as general construction labourers may be required for construction trade helpers.

### Other Considerations

Most construction trades helpers and labourers work full-time, but often for only part of the year because this work is highly seasonal.

### Employment Outlook

Large-scale construction projects are expected to remain stable over the forecast period, while new housing construction is expected to decline over the coming years. There is a large supply of labour for this occupation, and the work force is young.

### Typical Jobs

Carpenter Helper  
Flagman/woman  
Aircraft Mechanic Helper  
Construction Labourer  
Surveyor Helper

### Related Occupations

Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors  
Carpenters  
Public Works, Railway, and Motor Transport Labourers  
Survey Technicians and Technologists

# Construction Millwrights and Industrial Mechanics

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1970**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**57**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$19.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Construction millwrights and industrial mechanics install, maintain, and repair stationary industrial machinery and mechanical equipment.

To complete this, they read diagrams and schematic drawings to determine work procedures, and construct foundations for machinery, stationary industrial machinery, and mechanical equipment. They also assemble machinery and equipment prior to installation; inspect and examine machinery and equipment for malfunctions; and perform routine maintenance work on machinery.

### Skills

To work in this occupation, you should have an interest in electronics and mechanical operations. A background in mathematics and the sciences is helpful. You must be able to cooperate with others and perform routine tasks. Agility, physical strength, and hand-eye coordination are needed. You must also have good vision and hearing, and an inclination to work with tools.

### Employment Requirements

- Industrial Mechanic (Millwright) is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as an Industrial Mechanic (Millwright) in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or have a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journey person rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified industrial mechanics or millwrights.

Construction millwrights are employed by millwrighting contractors, and industrial mechanics are employed in manufacturing plants, utilities, and other industrial establishments. Employment in these occupations is not seasonal but can be sensitive to overall economic conditions.

### Employment Outlook

The skill requirements have increased for both of these occupations in recent years, and the increased use of advanced measuring devices and other new technologies have made the work of millwrights and industrial mechanics more precise and increasingly productive.

### Typical Jobs

Oil Driller  
Maintenance Millwright  
Plant Equipment Mechanic  
Treatment Plant Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**5030**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**155**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$18.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals supervise people who work as machinists, electricians, plumbers, sheet metal workers, carpenters, mechanics, heavy equipment operators, roofers, and painters.

They establish methods to meet work schedules and coordinate work activities with other departments; order supplies; and resolve work problems. In addition, they recommend ways to improve productivity; recommend hiring and promotions; arrange for training of workers; test, grade, and sample work for quality control; and prepare production reports.

### Skills

You must be able to work well with a variety of people. Leadership and effective oral and written communication skills are essential. You must also be able to prepare cost estimates, maintain production schedules, supervise staff, and work as part of a team. You should be prepared to keep up with new techniques, equipment, and materials. Physical stamina and good motor skills are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Contractors and supervisors in these occupations are required to complete high school and obtain several years of experience in the trade or work area supervised. College, university, or industry courses in the trade are strongly recommended. Contractors and supervisors are also required to obtain the appropriate trade or journeyman certificate to work in these occupations.

### Other Considerations

Most people in these occupations work full-time but often for only part of each year. Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions. As a result, workers in many of these occupations should be prepared for periods of unemployment. Also, many work on a project basis and can expect periods of unemployment throughout the year. Individuals in these occupations usually have significant non-supervisory experience in related occupations.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for many of the occupations in this group.

### Employment Outlook

A wide variety of occupations is included in this occupational group. These occupations are affected by the business cycle.

Demand for supervisors of trades related to the construction industry is linked to residential, commercial, and industrial building activity and infrastructure projects. Residential construction in the Halifax area has been unusually high in the past few years, creating demand for this occupational group. This activity is expected to decline in the coming years. Residential renovations are expected to increase in the coming years, which may create demand for some occupations in this group. Commercial construction activity is expected to remain steady, and several large projects in the Halifax area will create demand for many of these occupations. The Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, for example, is now well underway and is scheduled to be completed in 2008.

The average age of this occupational group is approximately 44 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Plumbing Contractor  
Roofing Contractor  
Carpenter Supervisor  
Cable Maintenance and Repair Supervisor  
Heavy Equipment Operator Supervisor  
Contractor, Heating Systems

### Related Occupations

Plumbers  
Welders  
Electricians  
Heavy Equipment Operators  
Machinists, Tool and Die Makers, and Tooling Makers  
Carpenters  
Sheet Metal Workers  
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanics  
Cable Television Service and Maintenance Technicians

# Crane Operators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**320**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**10**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.25 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Crane operators operate cranes or draglines to lift, move, position, or place machinery, equipment, and other large objects.

Crane operators work at construction or industrial sites, ports, railway yards, and other locations. The work may require operating mobile and tower cranes, cranes equipped with dredging attachments, gantry cranes, locomotive cranes, bridge or overhead cranes, offshore oil rig cranes, and cranes mounted on boats. These cranes dredge waterways; drive pillars into the ground to provide support for buildings and other structures; and move, lift, load, or

unload machinery. Crane operators may also perform routine maintenance work such as cleaning and lubricating cranes.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must also be able to work at heights, work with precision and attention to detail, take direction, and carry out instructions given by supervisors.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of some high school is generally necessary to work as a crane operator.

- Mobile crane operators are certified by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour. You must have completed 24 months of mobile crane experience under the direction of a certified mobile crane operator, and you must also pass two exams administered by the Department of Environment and Labour.

### Other Considerations

Robotics and computerized controls will increase the skill requirements for crane operators.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified mobile crane operators.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of crane operators is affected by growth in the manufacturing and construction industries, which are sensitive to economic conditions. Large-scale projects such as the twinning of highways create demand for this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Dragline Crane Operator  
Construction Crane Operator  
Bridge Crane Operator  
Mobile Crane Operator  
Tractor Crane Operator

### Related Occupations

Heavy Equipment Operators  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Delivery Drivers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook GOOD

Estimated employment in 2005  
**2180**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**85**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.00 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Delivery and courier service drivers drive automobiles, vans, and light trucks to pick up and deliver various products. They may deliver milk, prescriptions, newspapers, take-out food, dry cleaning, and catering. Courier service drivers pick up envelopes and/or packages for quick delivery to a specific address.

### Skills

You should enjoy driving and be able to function under minimal supervision. You must be alert, responsible, and self-motivated. An awareness of safety is important. You must also get along well with

people, as drivers often deal directly with customers. For some jobs, you should be willing to drive long distances and for extended periods of time.

### Employment Requirements

- A high school diploma may be required.
- A valid driver's licence appropriate to the class of vehicle being driving is required, along with at least one year of safe driving. Licensing is done by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- On-the-job training is provided.

- Couriers may need to be bondable, or to be certified for Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG).

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group, with a workforce of approximately 2,200. High turnover in this occupation means that there are usually good employment opportunities. This is not typically a well-paying occupation, and there is a large supply of labour. Delivery and courier service drivers work throughout the province and are found in most industry sectors.

### Typical Jobs

Delivery Driver  
Courier Service Driver  
Pizza Delivery Driver

### Related Occupations

Taxi and Limousine Drivers and Chauffeurs



# Drillers and Blasters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook LIMITED

Estimated employment in 2005  
40

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
DECLINING

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
1

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$12.50 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Drillers in this unit group operate mobile drilling machines to bore blast holes in open-pit mines and quarries, and to bore holes for blasting and for building foundations at construction sites. Blasters in this unit group fill blast holes with explosives and detonate explosives to dislodge coal, ore and rock or to demolish structures. They are employed by mining, quarrying, and construction companies and by drilling and blasting contractors.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have good physical strength, stamina,

and health. The ability to follow precise instructions and obey safety regulations is essential. You must be cautious, responsible, and able to work as a member of a team. A mechanical aptitude and an ability to use tools would be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Most employers require that you complete at least some high school, and a high school diploma is preferred.
- You may need experience as a heavy equipment operator to become a driller.
- Blasters may need some experience as blaster helpers in

surface mining and quarrying or construction. Blasters must be certified by the Board of Examiners at the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, and must be at least 19 years of age.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is linked to growth in the mining and construction sectors. Growth in Nova Scotia's mining industries is expected to decline somewhat in the coming years, while industrial, commercial, and infrastructure construction are expected to remain stable. It is expected that employment opportunities for this occupation will

be limited in the coming years. This is a very small occupation, with a workforce of approximately 45 in Nova Scotia.

### Typical Jobs

Blaster, Surface Mining  
Construction Blaster  
Construction Driller  
Foundation Drill Operator

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Underground Drillers, Blasters, and Miners  
Oil and Gas Well Drillers and Related Occupations

# Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
280

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
15

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
\$19.50 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Power line technicians and cable workers construct, maintain, and repair lines and cables or overhead and underground electrical power transmission and distribution systems. Power line technicians erect and maintain steel, wood, or concrete poles, towers, and guy wires. These workers inspect and test overhead and underground lines and cables. To do this they must climb ladders or operate hydraulic buckets when working on poles and towers, or work in confined spaces such as trenches and tunnels.

### Skills

This work requires accuracy, caution, and attention to detail. You must be able to work to precise specifications and levels of safety when installing and repairing cables and power lines. Physical stamina, good hand-eye

coordination, and an electrical aptitude are needed. You should also have a background in mathematics and the sciences.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is generally required for employment in these occupations.
- Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require that you be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Red Seal trade certification (allowing interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified power line technicians.

### Employment Outlook

Employment prospects are expected to be good for this occupational group. The main employer for this occupation is Emera, which is responsible for over 97% of the generation, transmission, and distribution of electrical power to customers in Nova Scotia. There is a constant need to repair and upgrade this infrastructure as well as work on new projects. Emera operates in a government-regulated environment. Changes in regulations, economic conditions, and population growth in Nova Scotia will affect this occupation. The construction industry is also an employer of this occupational group.

Stable growth in commercial, industrial, and institutional construction in the coming years should contribute to employment growth for this occupation.

The average age of this occupation is 43 years, and retirements should contribute to some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Power Line Technician  
Electrical Power Cable Installer  
Power Lineman/woman  
Cable Splicer, Electrical Power

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Telecommunications Line and Cable Workers  
Power System Electricians



# Electricians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
1890

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
DECLINING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
52

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$17.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Electricians assemble, install, test, and repair electrical wiring, fixtures, and control devices in buildings and other structures.

An electrician interprets drawings and electrical code specifications to decide wiring layouts for new or existing installations. He/she splices and connects wire to fixtures and components to form circuits. Electricians also perform preventive maintenance work.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical and electrical aptitude. A background in mathematics and the sciences is helpful. Basic calculation and blueprint-reading skills are needed. You must also be able to follow instructions and be comfortable working with tools. Good

eyesight, colour vision, and hand-eye coordination are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Construction Electrician is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Certification is necessary to work in this province.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions. As a result, workers in these occupations should be prepared for periods of unemployment. Also, many work on a project basis and can expect periods of unemployment throughout the year. The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified electricians.

### Employment Outlook

Electricians in this group are employed by electrical contractors and maintenance departments of buildings and other establishments, or they may be self-employed. Demand for this occupation is linked to growth in the construction sector. Growth in new residential housing construction is expected to taper off in the coming years, after a period of high growth. Large non-residential construction projects are expected to maintain steady growth in the coming years, which will contribute to employment for this occupation. Construction is generally sensitive to such factors as interest rates and material costs, and therefore demand

for electricians is sensitive to economic conditions.

This is a large occupational group with fair employment growth anticipated in the coming years. The average age of this occupation is approximately 41 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Construction Electrician  
Electrical Wireer, Construction  
Electrical Fixture Installer  
House Wireer

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Industrial Electricians  
Power System Electricians  
Oil Burner, Electrical, and Other  
Mechanics

# Gas Fitters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
80

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
3

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$15.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Gas fitters install, inspect, repair, and maintain gas lines and gas equipment such as meters, regulators, heating units, and appliances in residential, commercial, and industrial establishments.

They study drawings and specifications to prepare for installation; measure and mark reference points for installation of gas lines and equipment; and test and adjust control mechanisms. They also check pipes and piping connections for gas leaks; attend to gas escape calls; and assist in the investigation of gas fires and explosions. Gas fitters may also prepare reports, and advise

on standards, safety features, and the maintenance of gas units and systems.

### Skills

This work requires a methodical approach, a mechanical aptitude, and an ability to plan ahead. You must be agile, coordinated, and capable of working in cramped and awkward conditions. Patience and the ability to follow instructions are important. You should also be able to cooperate and work well with others on large projects.

### Employment Requirements

- Gas Fitter is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. You are required by

legislation to be certified as a Gas Fitter in the province of Nova Scotia.

### Employment Outlook

Gas fitters are employed by gas utility companies and gas servicing companies, and demand for this occupation moves in tandem with growth in this industry. It is anticipated that the planned expansion of a distribution system to homes and businesses in the province by Heritage Gas Limited will create demand for this occupation. This expansion will bring gas distribution networks into Dartmouth, Burnside, Amherst, and the Halifax International Airport.

This is a relatively small occupation in Nova Scotia, and the average age of this workforce is 42 years. Retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Gas Servicer  
Gas Fitter  
Gas Fitter Apprentice  
Gas Customer Servicer

### Related Occupations

Plumbers  
Steamfitters, Pipefitters, and Sprinkler  
System Installers  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades  
and Related

# Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1230**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**41**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Heavy duty equipment mechanics repair, overhaul, and maintain mobile heavy duty equipment used in construction, forestry, mining, material handling, landscaping, land clearing, and farming.

They check heavy construction equipment such as bulldozers, cranes, and graders for proper performance. They inspect the equipment for faults and malfunctions; diagnose for faults and estimate the extent of repair; adjust, repair, or replace defective parts; and perform routine maintenance work on equipment.

### Skills

To work in this occupation, you should have an interest in electronics and mechanical operations. A background in mathematics and the sciences is helpful. You must be

able to cooperate with others and perform routine tasks. Agility, physical strength, and hand-eye coordination are needed. You must also have good vision and hearing, and an inclination to work with tools.

### Employment Requirements

- Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic and Farm Equipment Mechanic are both designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The skills learned in this trade are transferable to other motive power trades.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified heavy equipment mechanics and farm equipment mechanics.

### Employment Outlook

Heavy duty equipment mechanics are employed by companies that own and operate heavy equipment, by heavy equipment sales, rental, and service establishments, and by railway transport companies and urban transit systems. The demand for heavy duty mechanics is related to the overall health of the economy and in particular the strength of the agricultural, heavy construction, and manufacturing sectors.

This is a large occupational group, and the average age of this workforce is approximately 41 years. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Heavy Mobile Mining Equipment Mechanic  
Heavy-Duty Equipment Mechanic  
Construction Equipment Mechanic  
Diesel Mechanic  
Tractor Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Motor Vehicle Mechanic  
Construction Millwrights and Industrial Mechanics  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Heavy Equipment Operators

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**3000**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**59**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Heavy equipment operators operate heavy equipment used in the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, airports, gas/oil pipelines, tunnels, and buildings.

Public Works maintenance equipment operators operate vehicles and equipment to maintain streets, highways, and sewer systems, or operate garbage trucks to remove refuse. They must also conduct pre-operational checks on equipment, and clean, lubricate, and refill equipment.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must also be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by supervisors.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of some high school is generally necessary to work in these occupations, and you may also be required to complete college or industry courses related to heavy equipment operation.

- A valid driver's licence appropriate to the specific type of equipment being operated may be required.

### Other Considerations

Work in these occupations tends to be seasonal, with employment usually peaking in the summer months and declining during the winter months.

### Employment Outlook

Heavy equipment operators are employed by construction companies, heavy equipment contractors, public works departments, and pipeline, logging, and cargo handling companies. The strength of the economy and the ability for large employers to acquire contracts

influence this occupation. Commercial, industrial, and infrastructure construction activities are expected to remain stable.

### Typical Jobs

Backhoe Operator  
Bulldozer Operator  
Loader Operator  
Excavator Operator  
Snow Removal Equipment Operator

### Related Occupations

Crane Operators  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Truck Drivers

# Industrial Electricians

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**480**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**17**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Industrial electricians install, examine, replace, or repair electrical wiring, receptacles, switch boxes, conduits, and other electrical equipment. They maintain, repair, test, and install electrical motors, generators, industrial storage batteries, and hydraulic and pneumatic electrical control systems. Electricians in these settings conduct preventive maintenance programs and keep maintenance records.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical and electrical aptitude. A background in mathematics and the sciences can be useful. Basic calculation and blueprint-reading skills are needed. You must also be

able to follow instructions and be comfortable working with tools. Good eyesight, colour vision, and hand-eye coordination are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Industrial Electrician and Mine Electrician are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified industrial electricians.

### Employment Outlook

Industrial electricians are mainly employed by the manufacturing and construction industries. The introduction of new technologies such as fibre optics and computer-aided manufacturing has changed the work of industrial electricians. There is demand for cross-functional workers, with an overlap between the skills

required of industrial electricians and those of construction, millwright, and instrumentation trades.

It is anticipated that retirements will be the primary factor contributing to employment growth in the coming years. The average age of industrial electricians in Nova Scotia is approximately 42 years.

### Typical Jobs

Plant Electrician  
Mine Electrician  
Marine Electrician  
Industrial Electrician

### Related Occupations

Electricians  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Power System Electricians

# Ironworkers

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**FAIR**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**220**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Ironworkers fabricate, erect, hoist, install, repair, and service structural ironwork, precast concrete, concrete reinforcing materials, curtain walls, ornamental iron, and other metals used in the construction of buildings, bridges, highways, dams and other structures, and equipment. They are employed by construction ironwork contractors.

### Skills

For this occupation you should have an interest in machines, precision techniques, and processes. You should be capable of working at heights and under exposure to noise and vibration. Physical strength, coordination, and agility are needed. You must have the ability to work systematically, think analytically, and perform basic mathematical calculations. Artistic ability may be an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- Ironworker (Generalist) is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as an Ironworker in the

province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

There may be exposure to heat, noise, vibration, dust, and odours within the working environment.

Employment is moderately seasonal, and self-employment is rare in this occupation.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified ironworkers.

### Employment Outlook

Ironworkers are employed by construction ironwork contractors. Demand for this occupation stems from industrial, commercial, and infrastructure construction activity, which is expected to remain stable in the coming years with steady growth. Employment can be highly sensitive to overall economic conditions.

### Typical Jobs

Ornamental Ironworker  
Structural Steel Erector  
Ironworker

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Boilermakers  
Structural Metal and Platework Fabricators and Fitters

# Locksmiths, Gunsmiths, RV Technicians, and Related Trades

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**170**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**7**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Gunsmiths make and repair firearms. Locksmiths make, install, and repair locks. Recreational vehicle (RV) technicians service and repair recreational vehicles. Others in this grouping install and repair safes, vaults, and saw blades.

### Skills

You will require manual dexterity to manipulate and use tools and assemble parts. Workers in these occupations need to be methodical and precise. Good near vision is required. Communication skills

are needed to assess customer requirements and specifications.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion plus several years of on-the-job training is usually required.
- Locksmith and Recreation Vehicle Service Technician are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia.
- Gunsmiths who sell firearms require a firearms business licence, issued by Policing and Victim Services, Nova Scotia Department of Justice.

### Other Considerations

Most people in these occupations are employed full-time. Self-employment is common and nearly half work in their own business.

Red Seal trade certification for recreation vehicle service technicians allows for interprovincial mobility.

### Employment Outlook

This occupational group includes a variety of tradespersons and related skilled workers. The number of employers for these occupations is limited.

This is not a large occupational group, with a workforce of approximately 170. According to

Statistics Canada, this is an entirely male workforce. The average age of this occupation is 41 years, and retirements should contribute to some job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Gunsmith  
Recreational Vehicle Technician  
Safe and Vault Servicer  
Sawfitter

### Related Occupations

Residential, Automotive and Other Installers and Repairers  
Oil Burner, Electrical, and Other Mechanics

# Longshore Workers and Materials Handlers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**5050**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**150**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Longshore workers and materials handlers transfer cargo throughout the dock areas and onto and off ships and other vessels.

They handle, move, load, and unload materials, by hand or by using a variety of material-handling equipment. They must operate industrial trucks, tractors, and winches, and also use equipment to transfer bulk materials. They perform other activities such as lashing and shoring cargo aboard ships, opening and closing hatches, and cleaning holds of ships. In addition, they may be required to count, weigh, sort, pack, and unpack cargo as well.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must be able to take direction and carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal education or training requirements to work in these occupations, although many employers require that you have at least some high school education.

### Other Considerations

Red Seal trade certification for apprenticeship allows interprovincial mobility for many of the occupations in this group.

### Employment Outlook

Employment opportunities for longshore workers are expected to be limited over the forecast period while opportunities for materials handlers are expected to be good. There is a significant supply of available labour for longshore workers and some employment in this group is casual. This is not a large occupation, with a workforce of approximately 550.

There will be numerous employment opportunities for material handlers over the coming years due to turnover in the next few years. Low income is the main reason for turnover in this occupation. This is a large occupation with a workforce of approximately 4,500.

### Typical Jobs

Stevedore  
Railway Car Loader  
Lumber Piler, Building Supplies  
Coal Handler  
Furniture Mover  
Forklift Truck Operator

### Related Occupations

Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants  
Crane Operators  
Heavy Equipment Operators  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related



# Machine Fitters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**120**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**6**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This work involves inspection, maintenance, assembly, or building of industrial machinery. These occupations require that you troubleshoot mechanical systems, recommend equipment changes or modifications, evaluate new equipment, and carry out preventive maintenance programs.

### Skills

You should have an interest in electronics and mechanical operations. A background in mathematics and the sciences is useful. You must be able to cooperate with others and perform routine tasks. Agility, physical strength, and hand-eye coordination are needed. You must also have good vision and hearing, and an inclination to work with tools.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is usually required.
- Aircraft engine fitters require a diploma in aircraft manufacturing or general fabrication.
- You will require completion of either five years of on-the-job training or an apprenticeship program in machining, automotive service, or heavy equipment repair.
- You may require certification in a related trade for some positions.

### Employment Outlook

Machine fitters are employed in the industrial machinery and transportation equipment manufacturing industries. There should be particular demand for machine fitters in the aerospace industry, which is seeing growth in Nova Scotia.

This is a small occupation in Nova Scotia, with a workforce of approximately 125.

### Typical Jobs

Aircraft Engine Fitter  
Assembly Fitter  
Machine Fitter  
Machine Tool Builder  
Machine Tool Builder/Integrator

### Related Occupations

Welders  
Assemblers, Electrical Appliance and Industrial Motors  
Aircraft Assemblers and Aircraft Assembly Inspectors  
Mechanical Assemblers and Inspectors



# Machinists, Tool and Die Makers, and Tooling Inspectors

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**930**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**46**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.00 HOURLY**

## Nature of the Work

Machinists set up and operate a variety of machine tools to cut or grind metal and similar materials into parts or products with precise dimensions.

They read and interpret blueprints, charts, and tables, or study sample parts to determine the machine operation to be performed; compute dimensions and tolerances; measure work pieces; and fit and assemble machine parts using hand and power tools.

Machinists in large manufacturing facilities, and increasingly in smaller shops, use computer-controlled metal-cutting systems, such as CNC machine tools. Tool and die makers manufacture and repair custom tools, dies, fixtures, and other devices. They read and interpret specifications; compute dimensions and tolerances; fit and assemble parts; operate a variety of machine tools; and test and inspect completed devices.

## Skills

For these occupations, you should have an interest in machines, precision techniques, and processes. Good hand-eye coordination and agility are needed. You should be comfortable working with tools and able to read mechanical drawings. You must have the ability to work systematically, think analytically, and perform basic mathematical calculations. Employees in automated shops must be comfortable using computer equipment.

## Employment Requirements

- Machinist and Tool and Die Maker are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

## Other Considerations

To maintain employment, workers will have to keep abreast of changing technology. In particular, the use of sophisticated computer-controlled equipment has transformed the work of machinists and will continue to do so.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified machinists and tool and die makers.

## Employment Outlook

Machinists are primarily employed by the automotive and aerospace industries and through industrial construction activities in Nova Scotia. Employment prospects are best where these industries are concentrated. Large infrastructure projects, such as the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, and growth in the offshore oil and gas industries increase demand for this occupation.

Tool and die makers is a very small occupational group in Nova Scotia. Tool and die makers are primarily employed in the manufacturing industry, and the number of employers for these particular occupations is limited.

The average age of tool and die makers is approximately 46 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings. Despite projected positive employment growth, the number of new job openings will remain limited due to the small size of these occupations.

## Typical Jobs

Automotive Machinist  
Die Finisher  
Mould Maker  
Machining Inspector

## Related Occupations

Machining, Metalworking, Woodworking, and Related Machine Operators  
Machinists, Tool and Die Makers, and Tooling Inspectors  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Motor Vehicle Body Repairers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**960**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**27**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Auto-body repairers restore damaged body parts and interior finishes. They fill holes and seams, hammer out dents and buckles, remove damaged parts, and file and sand surfaces. They may also apply primers and paint to surfaces, and repair/replace interior components.

### Skills

You should have mechanical aptitude, as well as patience, reliability, coordination, and agility. Lightness of touch and attention to detail are important. Some physical strength may be needed. This work requires excellent spatial and form perception. You should be able to visualize a finished piece of work from a sketch or brief description.

### Employment Requirements

- Motor Vehicle Body Repairer (Metal and Paint) and Automotive Painter are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.
- Completion of high school or its equivalent and a three- to four-year apprenticeship program, or a combination of over three years of work experience in the trade and completion of a high school or college automotive body repair program, are usually required to be eligible for trade certification.

### Other Considerations

Red Seal trade certification (allowing interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified motor vehicle body repairers and automotive painters.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is steady; as long as there are automobile accidents, there will be demand for this occupation. Motor vehicle body repairers are employed by automobile dealers, automobile body repair companies, automobile appraisal centres, and motor vehicle manufacturers, or they may be self-employed. Those with diversified skills in front-end alignment, detailing, and frame straightening are in particular demand.

### Typical Jobs

Metal Finisher  
Metal Repairer  
Automotive Painter  
Automotive Body Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Motor Vehicle Mechanics  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Motor Vehicle Mechanics

## Labour Market Information

Outlook  
**GOOD**

Estimated employment in 2005  
**3890**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**121**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Motor vehicle mechanics and technicians inspect, diagnose, repair, and service mechanical, electrical, and electronic systems and components of cars, buses, and trucks. They may specialize in areas such as brakes, suspension, engine, and fuel systems.

They inspect and test automotive systems; diagnose and isolate faults; and adjust, repair, and replace parts. Motor vehicle mechanics often use hand tools and specialized auto repair equipment; perform maintenance service and road tests; and advise customers on vehicle operations. Usually protective clothing, goggles, and safety boots must be worn.

### Skills

You should have mechanical aptitude, as well as patience, reliability, coordination, and agility. Lightness of touch and attention to detail are important. Some physical strength may be needed. Skills in mathematics and computers will also be helpful.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school or its equivalent and a four-year apprenticeship program in the trade, or a combination of over four years of work experience and technical training, are required for certification in these trades.
- Automotive Service Technician, Automotive Service Technician (Service Station Mechanic), and Truck and Transport Mechanic are designated apprenticeship trades, in which certification is compulsory. You must be a registered apprentice or have a Certificate of Qualification in these trades. Automotive Service Technician and Truck and Transport Mechanic have four-year apprenticeship terms. The term for Automotive Service Technician (Service Station Mechanic) is two years.

### Other Considerations

As motor vehicles become more complex through the use of advanced electrical and electronic technology, the skills needed to repair these vehicles are changing. Therefore, individuals should be prepared to keep abreast of new developments in automotive technology.

In these occupations, you may be exposed to noise and fumes.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified automotive, truck, and transport mechanics.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is good. As cars become more advanced, employers require mechanics who have strong electronics and computer skills. Mechanics with journeyman status are the most highly sought-after.

### Typical Jobs

Bus Mechanic  
Automobile Service Technician  
Automobile Mechanic  
Truck and Transport Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Motor Vehicle Body Repairers  
Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Oil Burner, Electrical, and Other Mechanics

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**940**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**32**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals install and service electrical equipment such as oil, coal, and wood burners; appliances such as televisions and VCRs; electric motors and transformers; and motor scooters, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. They cut and solder wires; replace defective parts; analyze faults with test instruments; and make adjustments and replacements using a variety of hand and power tools and specialized equipment. They calculate estimates of repair cost and advise customers on condition of equipment and work to be performed.

### Skills

This work requires an understanding of the principles of electricity and a mechanical aptitude. You should be able to follow instructions and perform detailed work. A background in mathematics and the sciences is helpful. You should also have physical strength, stamina, and the ability to work at heights.

### Employment Requirements

- Oil Burner Mechanic is a compulsory certified trade in Nova Scotia. You must be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification to be employed in this trade.
- Appliance Service Technician, Electric Motor System Technician, Electronics Technician (Consumer Products), and Motorcycle Mechanic are designated trades for certification purposes only in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Workers may be self-employed and provide services as needed to their clients. Therefore, earnings may vary throughout the year and depend upon the person's ability to attract and retain customers.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing interprovincial mobility) is available for these trades.

### Employment Outlook

This is a medium-sized occupational group, and employment in this group is expected to grow about the same as the average of all occupations through the forecast period. Growth in this occupational group is linked to growth in the retail trade, construction, and services sectors.

Continuing technological improvements may negatively affect this occupation. Advances in technology have made such items as electric appliances, heating systems, electrical equipment and transformers, and small engines more reliable, thus reducing maintenance needs. Also, the increasing affordability of many of these items has led to consumers replacing malfunctioning machinery and equipment rather than repairing it.

The largest occupation in this grouping is oil and solid fuel heating mechanics, of which there are approximately 240 across the province. The oldest workforce in this occupational group is that of electrical mechanics who have an average age of approximately 46 years. Retirements are expected to contribute to job openings for electrical mechanics in the coming years, and this occupation is expected to see the greatest amount of employment growth out of this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Oil Burner Mechanic  
Motorcycle Mechanic  
Small Engine Repairer  
Electrical Mechanic  
Appliance Service Technician

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Industrial Electricians  
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanics

# Painters, Roofers, and Other Construction Trades

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**2440**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**31**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Roofers install and repair flat roofs and shingles and roofing tiles on sloped roofs. Glaziers install glass windows in buildings and vehicles, and decorative glass in furniture and other products. Insulators insulate pipes, walls, floors, ceilings, and other structures. Floor covering installers install carpet, wood, linoleum, vinyl, and other resilient floor coverings in various types of buildings. Painters and decorators apply paint, varnish, wallpaper, and other finishes.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have physical stamina, agility, and coordination, and be capable of climbing, reaching, crouching, and handling heavy materials. While most of the work is done indoors, you must be willing to work outdoors and at heights. You must be able to perform basic mathematical calculations and read blueprints and drafting specifications.

### Employment Requirements

- These occupations are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions, and many are on a project basis. As a result, workers in these occupations should be prepared for periods of unemployment.

The physical demands of this work may make it difficult for people to stay in these jobs for a long time.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for floor covering installers, glaziers, insulators (heat and frost), and roofers.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for these occupations is tied to construction and renovation activity in the province. Although housing construction is expected to continue to decline, renovations activity is expected to grow and non-residential construction activity is expected to remain stable in the coming years.

Some work may be seasonal. Roofing and painting is not as susceptible to economic shifts, as much of the work is on-going in replacement and maintenance.

This is a large occupational group with a relatively young workforce. Retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Painter and Decorator  
Floor Covering Installer  
Glazier  
House Painter  
Heat and Frost Insulator

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related



# Plaster and Drywall Installers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**460**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Plasterers apply coats of plaster to interior and exterior walls, ceilings, and building partitions to produce plain or decorative surfaces. Lathers install support framework and ceilings, drywall, partitions, soundproofing, and vapour barriers, while drywall installers and finishers install and finish drywall sheets and various types of ceiling systems.

### Skills

To work in this trade, you should be in good physical condition and comfortable working at varying heights. Basic mathematical skills are needed to make accurate

measurements. You must be able to follow instructions and work well with others. The ability to read blueprints is also an asset. Organizational and management skills would be helpful for promotion to supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Lather (Interior Systems Mechanic) is a designated trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as a Lather (Interior Systems Mechanic) in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Most jobs in the construction industry are affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions, and furthermore many jobs are on a project basis. Consequently, workers in these occupations should be prepared for periods of unemployment. However, since plaster and drywall installers are less affected by weather conditions, they enjoy steadier work throughout the year than do other construction workers.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified lathers.

### Employment Outlook

This occupational group is employed by construction companies and by plastering, dry-walling, and lathing contractors, or they may be self-employed. A decline in new housing construction will negatively affect this occupation in the coming years. However, growth in the renovations market should create some employment opportunities.

### Typical Jobs

Sheetrock Applicator  
Stucco Mason  
Ceiling Installer  
Drywall Finisher  
Lather

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Plumbers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**960**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Plumbers install, maintain, and repair plumbing systems.

They read blueprints; measure, cut, and thread pipes; operate hand and power tools; and join pipes using clamps, cement, or welding equipment. They also install support for piping systems; connect piping systems to water mains and pumps; clean pipes; and test for leaks.

### Skills

This work requires a methodical approach, mechanical aptitude, and an ability to plan ahead. You must be agile, coordinated, and capable of working in cramped and awkward conditions. Patience and the ability to follow instructions are important. You should also be able to cooperate and work well with others on large projects.

### Employment Requirements

- Plumber is a designated apprenticeship trade, and certification to become a plumber is compulsory in Nova Scotia.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified plumbers.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupation is linked to activities in the residential and industrial construction sectors and the renovations market. Although it is expected that there will be a decline in residential construction, it is anticipated that industrial, commercial, and infrastructure

construction activities should remain stable. There is steady growth expected in the renovations market in the coming years.

It is common for plumbers to be self-employed or employed in small to medium-sized businesses.

### Typical Jobs

Maintenance Plumber  
Plumber  
Plumber Apprentice

### Related Occupations

Gas Fitters  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Power Station and Power Systems Operators

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**150**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**5**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Power systems operators monitor and operate switchboards and related equipment in electrical control centres to control the distribution of electrical power in transmission networks. Power station operators operate reactors, turbines, boilers, generators, and other related equipment in electrical generating stations and substations. They are required to coordinate, schedule, and direct generating station and substation power loads and line voltages; monitor and visually inspect station instruments, meters, and alarms; issue work and test permits to maintenance personnel; and maintain records.

### Skills

This work requires accuracy, attention to detail, good mechanical aptitude,

and mathematical ability. You must be alert, reliable, and capable of working with minimal supervision. Verbal communication, decision-making, and problem-solving skills are needed, as well as the ability to follow instructions. You should be agile, coordinated, and in good physical condition.

### Employment Requirements

- High school completion is required. Workers in this trade usually have high standings in grade 11 mathematics and physics
- Power systems operators require three years of work experience in the trade, and some college or industry courses in electrical and electronic technology.
- Power station operators may be required to complete an apprenticeship program in

stationary or power engineering and obtain an engineering or stationary engineering certificate according to class. However, several years of work experience in the trade and some courses in stationary or power engineering may be sufficient to work in this area.

### Other Considerations

New job growth is likely to be limited, as construction of new power generation facilities is unlikely over the next few years.

### Employment Outlook

Power system and power station operators are employed by electric power utilities and by some large manufacturing facilities. There is limited growth expected in this occupation in the coming years.

This is not a large occupational group, with approximately 140 workers across the province. This occupational group has an older workforce, with an average age of 47 years; however, retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Power Dispatcher  
Power Plant Operator  
Nuclear Reactor Operator  
Generating Station Operator  
Distribution Control Operator

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists  
Stationary and Power Engineers

# Power System Electricians

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**40**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**2**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Industrial and power system electricians install, examine, replace, or repair electrical wiring, receptacles, switch boxes, conduits, transformers, generators, voltage regulators, and other electrical equipment. They maintain, repair, test, and install electrical motors, generators, industrial storage batteries, and hydraulic and pneumatic electrical control systems. Electricians in these settings conduct preventive maintenance programs and keep maintenance records.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical and electrical aptitude. You should have a background in

mathematics and sciences. Basic calculation and blueprint-reading skills are needed. You must also be able to follow instructions and be comfortable working with tools. Good eyesight, colour vision, and hand-eye coordination are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Power systems or station electricians are usually required to complete high school and have a combination of up to four years of work experience in the trade and some college or industry courses in electrical technology.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

### Employment Outlook

Power system electricians are employed by electric power generation, transmission, and distribution companies. Emera, which is responsible for over 97% of the generation, transmission, and distribution of electrical power to customers in Nova Scotia, is the main employer of this occupation. There is a constant need to repair and upgrade this infrastructure, as well as work on new projects. Emera

operates in a government-regulated environment. Changes in regulations, economic conditions, and population growth in Nova Scotia will affect this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Power Station Electrician  
Power System Electrician  
Industrial Electrician

### Related Occupations

Electricians  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers  
Industrial Electricians  
Oil Burner, Electrical and Other Mechanics

# Public Works, Railway, and Motor Transport Labourers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**670**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**14**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$11.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Public works labourers work to maintain sidewalks, streets, roads, and public areas. Railway labourers assist track maintenance workers and railway yard workers. Other helpers work on delivery trucks and moving vans.

### Skills

You need good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must be able to take direction and be able to carry out instructions given by a supervisor.

### Employment Requirements

- Some high school education is required.
- On-the-job training may be provided.

### Other Considerations

Most people in these occupations work full-time, but often for only part of the year.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of public works and maintenance labourers is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations over the forecast period. Demand for this occupation is linked to municipal, provincial, and federal government funding for public works projects. Large-scale infrastructure projects will increase demand for this occupation.

Railway and motor transport labourers is a very small occupation. It is expected that there will be some employment growth; however, this will not result in many new jobs due to the small size of this occupation. This occupation has a very young workforce, and turnover can be expected to create some job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Railway Yard Worker  
Garbage Collector  
Mover Helper

### Related Occupations

Labourers in Primary Industry  
Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants  
Longshore Workers and Materials Handlers  
Heavy Equipment Operators  
Construction and Other Trades Helpers and Labourers

# Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanics

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**570**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**DECLINING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**11**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$15.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics install and maintain air conditioning, refrigeration, and combined heating/cooling systems in homes, businesses, and industry.

### Skills

This work requires an understanding of the principles of electricity and a mechanical aptitude. You should be able to follow instructions and perform detailed work. A background in mathematics and the sciences is useful. You should also have physical strength, stamina, and the ability to work at heights.

### Employment Requirements

- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic is a compulsory certified trade in Nova Scotia. You must be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification to be employed in this trade.

### Other Considerations

Workers may be self-employed and provide services as needed to their clients. Therefore, earnings may vary throughout the year and depend upon the person's ability to attract and retain customers.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics.

### Employment Outlook

The renovation and construction of commercial and industrial buildings increasingly incorporates sophisticated, computerized climate-control systems. Much of the work of these mechanics is in maintenance and repair. A concern with air quality in public buildings also creates demand for these occupations. The average age of persons in this occupational group is 39 years.

### Typical Jobs

Central Air Conditioning Mechanic  
Heating and Cooling Mechanic  
Transport Refrigeration Mechanic

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Oil Burner, Electrical, and Other Mechanics

# Residential, Automotive, and Other Installers and Repairers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1440**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**33**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$12.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

These individuals install, repair, and maintain parts in a variety of settings. For instance, they may install and service a wide variety of interior and exterior prefabricated products, such as windows, doors, electrical appliances, water heaters, play structures, fences, and septic systems. They may also maintain and repair waterworks equipment and facilities; inspect buildings and outside areas for pest infestations, and spray chemical treatments; and replace automotive mechanical parts.

These workers are required to determine the type of repair needed, provide estimates, and keep records of work performed.

### Skills

To work in these trades, you should be in good physical condition and comfortable working outdoors and at varying heights. Basic mathematical skills are needed to make accurate measurements. You must be able to follow instructions and work well with others. The ability to read blueprints is also an asset.

### Employment Requirements

- There are no formal education or training requirements to work in these occupations, although many employers require that you have at least some high school education.
- A valid driver's licence is usually necessary to work in most of these occupations.

- A pesticide applicator's licence from the Department of Environment and Labour is required to work as a pest controller.
- Some occupations, in particular equipment repair such as camera, piano, or sewing machine repair, require either completion of courses or on-the-job training.

### Employment Outlook

This occupational group is employed by companies specializing in specific product installation. There are two main occupations included in this group: residential and commercial installers, and automotive mechanical installers. Demand for residential and service installers is affected by the strength of the home renovations

market, new housing construction, and commercial construction activities. While home renovations are increasing somewhat, there is an anticipated decline in new housing construction. Commercial construction is expected to remain stable.

### Typical Jobs

Muffler Installer  
Fire Equipment Worker  
Gas Maintenance Worker  
Siding Installer  
Pest Controller

### Related Occupations

Motor Vehicle Mechanics  
Gas Fitters  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

## Sheet Metal Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**470**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**9**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Sheet metal workers fabricate, assemble, install, and repair sheet metal products. They read drawings and sketches; draft patterns; lay out, measure, and mark sheet metal; operate light metalworking machines and laser equipment; fit, join, shape, and form sheet metal parts; and inspect product quality. These workers often assist other tradespersons.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have physical stamina, agility, and coordination, and be capable of climbing, reaching, crouching, and handling heavy materials. Although most of the work is done indoors, you must be willing to work outdoors and at heights. You must be able to read blueprints and drafting specifications and perform basic mathematical calculations.

### Employment Requirements

- Sheet metal worker is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions, and many jobs are on a project basis. As a result, workers in these occupations should expect periods of unemployment throughout the year, with employment peaking in the summer months. The physical demands of this work may make it difficult for people to stay in these jobs for a long time.

Technology is impacting the skill levels required for this occupation. New materials and different installation techniques and joining methods require an upgrading of skills for some sheet metal workers. Also, the increased use of computer-controlled equipment is transforming the skills required for this occupation.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified sheet metal workers.

### Employment Outlook

Employment for this occupation depends to a large degree on construction activity, which is expected to remain stable for industrial, commercial, and infrastructure projects in the coming years. Cyclical fluctuations in demand

are common as this occupation is somewhat sensitive to economic conditions.

### Typical Jobs

Sheet Metal Fabricator  
Tinsmith  
Sheet Metal Worker

### Related Occupations

Machining, Metalworking, Woodworking, and Related Machine Operators  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Boilermakers  
Structural Metal and Platework Fabricators and Fitters  
Ironworkers



# Stationary and Power Engineers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**930**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**40**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$17.25 HOUR**

### Nature of the Work

Power engineers, also known as stationary engineers, operate and maintain various types of stationary engines and auxiliary equipment, such as boilers, turbines, generators, and compressors, to provide heat, ventilation, refrigeration, light, and power for buildings and industrial plants.

They monitor and inspect plant equipment and meters to measure temperature, pressure, and fuel flow to detect leaks or malfunctions. They also analyze and record instrument readings and equipment malfunctions; and clean and lubricate generators, turbines, pumps, and compressors.

### Skills

This work requires good mechanical aptitude and mathematical ability. You must be alert, reliable, and capable of working with minimal supervision. Verbal communication, decision-making, and problem-solving skills are needed, as well as the ability to follow instructions. You should be agile, coordinated, and in good physical condition.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school or equivalent is required. Also, the completion of industry-related courses and on-the-job training, or an apprenticeship program, are required to become certified as a stationary or power engineer.
- The Public Safety Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour tests and certifies power engineers.

### Other Considerations

People in these occupations are usually required to do shiftwork.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyperson rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

There is no Red Seal certification for stationary engineers.

The interprovincial standard for stationary/power engineers in Canada is that set out by the Standardization of Power Engineers Examination Committee (SOPEEC). This committee is affiliated with the Association of Chief Inspectors (ACI). Examinations are prepared by the Coordinator of Examinations, who is appointed by ACI. Candidates who meet the provincial requirements and who pass the prescribed examinations are issued provincial certification with a SOPEEC seal or have the word 'standardized' printed on their certificate. This Certificate of Qualification is accepted across Canada. Please contact the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour for more information.

### Employment Outlook

Stationary and power engineers are employed in industrial and manufacturing plants, hospitals, universities, utilities, and commercial establishments and across government. Improvements in technology and changes in legislation have somewhat decreased the need for this occupation, and there is very little turnover in this occupation.

### Typical Jobs

Auxiliary Plant Operator  
Boiler Operator  
Steam Plant Operator  
Stationary Engineer  
Power Engineer

### Related Occupations

Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial  
Engineering Technicians and  
Technologists  
Power Station and Power Systems  
Operators



# Steamfitters, Pipefitters, and Sprinkler System Installers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
800

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
16

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$18.75 HOUR

### Nature of the Work

Steamfitters, pipefitters, and sprinkler system installers all install, maintain, and repair pipelines and systems.

They read blueprints and specifications; measure, cut, and thread pipes; operate hand and power tools; join pipes using clamps, cement, or welding equipment; and cut openings in walls, floors, and ceilings. They may also install support for piping systems; connect piping systems to water mains and pumps; clean pipes; and test for leaks.

Sprinkler fitters work mainly on pressure pipeline systems used for extinguishing and preventing fires. Steamfitters and pipefitters work mainly on high- and low-pressure piping systems used to conduct liquids and gases for heating, cooling, and lubricating.

### Skills

This work requires a methodical approach, a mechanical aptitude, and an ability to plan ahead. You must be agile, coordinated, and capable of working in cramped and awkward conditions. Patience and the ability to follow instructions are important. You should also be able to cooperate and work well with others on large projects.

### Employment Requirements

- Sprinkler System Installer and Steamfitter/Pipefitter are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journey person rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified steamfitter/pipefitters and sprinkler system installers.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for this occupational group is determined by the amount of new construction requiring piping and the maintenance required for existing piping. Although it is expected that there will be a decline in residential construction, it is anticipated that industrial, commercial, and infrastructure construction activities should remain stable. There is steady growth expected in the renovations market in the coming years. The demand for sprinkler system installers is expected to grow as systems become more complex and are computer-controlled. This occupation is affected by building code regulations.

### Typical Jobs

Sprinkler System Fitter  
Sprinkler System Installer  
Steamfitter  
Marine Pipefitter

### Related Occupations

Plumbers  
Gas Fitters  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Structural Metal and Platework Fabricators and Fitters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**240**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$16.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Platers and structural metal fabricators make metal parts for storage tanks, ships, scaffolding, and other structures made from steel plates, tubes, beams, or similar materials. They lay out patterns on heavy metal according to specifications; assemble and fit metal plates to form complete units using tack welding, bolting, or other methods; set up and operate metalworking machines, including computer numerical control equipment; and construct patterns and templates as guides for layouts.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical aptitude. You must be resourceful and able to make decisions. Good form perception, physical strength,

coordination, and agility are important. Those interested in the structural metal fabricating trade should not have any fear of heights and should be able to move quickly.

### Employment Requirements

- Metal/Steel Fabricator and Marine Fitter are designated apprenticeship trades in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in these designated occupations in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the

journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified fabricators and fitters.

### Employment Outlook

Structural metal and platework fabricators and fitters are employed in structural steel, boiler, and platework fabrication plants and by heavy machinery manufacturing and shipbuilding companies. Employment for this occupation depends to a large degree on construction activity, which is expected to remain stable for industrial, commercial, and infrastructure projects in the coming years. Cyclical fluctuations in demand are common as this occupation is

somewhat sensitive to economic conditions.

Plastics and composite substitutes are increasingly being used in the manufacturing and construction industries as a substitute for metal. This trend may affect this occupational group in the longer term.

### Typical Jobs

Platework Fitter  
Marine Fitter  
Metal Fabricator  
Steel Fabricator  
Shipfitter

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Boilermakers  
Ironworkers

# Taxi and Limousine Drivers and Chauffeurs

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1590**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**67**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Taxi and limousine drivers drive automobiles and limousines to transport passengers. Chauffeurs drive automobiles and limousines to transport personnel and visitors of businesses, government, or other organizations, or members of private households. These drivers assist passengers with luggage, collect fares, and clean and service their vehicles. All drivers are required to keep records and report delays and mechanical problems.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should enjoy driving and be able to function under minimal supervision. You must be alert, responsible, and self-motivated. An awareness of

safety is important. You must also get along well with people, as drivers often deal directly with customers. For some jobs, you should be willing to drive long distances and for extended periods of time.

### Employment Requirements

- To drive a taxi or limousine, or to work as a chauffeur, you must be at least nineteen years of age, and have a Class Four licence and at least one year of safe driving experience.
- For more information regarding driving requirements, you should contact your local Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- A good knowledge of the local geographical area is needed.
- A municipal permit is usually required to operate a taxi or

limousine. Requirements for these permits vary according to the municipality. Vehicles must meet municipal standards for taxis and limousines.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group, with a workforce of approximately 1,600. Employment opportunities arise most frequently for taxi drivers who rent their vehicles from taxi cab companies, and turnover is high. Those who own their own vehicles tend to remain in the job for longer periods of time. In the Halifax metro area, the Halifax Regional Municipality continues to restrict taxi-owner licenses for cars.

It is expected that there will be a growing demand for wheelchair-accessible vehicle

services to provide transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities. Rising gas prices could negatively affect this occupation.

This occupation has an older workforce, with an average age of approximately 50. It is expected that retirements will contribute to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Limousine Driver  
Chauffeur  
Taxi Driver

### Related Occupations

Bus Drivers and Other Transit Drivers  
Delivery Drivers

# Telecommunications Installation and Repair Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
400

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
STABLE

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
15

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$18.75 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Telecommunications installation and repair workers and cable television service technicians install, arrange, remove, and maintain telephone equipment and cable outlets. They must test installed equipment and repair or replace defective and damaged telephone wire, cable television signals, and associated equipment. This work requires operating computerized testing systems to conduct service tests on customer lines and equipment; identifying service problems; arranging for repair; working with fibre optics media; and completing reports of service calls. Climbing and working on poles, ladders, or other support structures is part of the job.

### Skills

This work requires a good mechanical and electrical aptitude. You should have a background in mathematics and the sciences. Accuracy and a keen eye for detail are important. Good eyesight, colour vision, and hand-eye coordination are necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Telecommunications installers or repairers are normally required to complete high school and obtain industry courses and work experience in the trade.
- Service testers usually require experience as installers and repairers.
- Telecommunications equipment technicians are usually required to complete a college electrical and electronics program and several months of on-the-job training.

### Other Considerations

The amount of data that can be carried by communications lines through both analog data and digital signals has increased dramatically. Advances in telecommunications and multi-media technology and the ways in which they are delivered to customers may affect the type of work performed and job prospects in these occupations.

### Employment Outlook

The telecommunications industry is rapidly changing. Advances in telecommunications, such as fibre optics, and the deregulation of the telecommunications industry mean that there are now a wider variety of available services and a wider variety of employers for this occupational group. Also, the price of these services has significantly decreased, increasing accessibility and affordability for users. The largest growth in the telecommunications industry is in mobile telecommunications, cellular technology, and the Internet. The main employers of this occupational group in Nova Scotia are the telecommunications companies Aliant and Eastlink.

Retirements in the coming years are expected to be the main contributing factor to job openings for this occupational group. The average age of this occupational group is approximately 42 years.

### Typical Jobs

Telecommunications Service Testers  
Cellular Telephone Technician  
Telecommunications Equipment Technician  
Telephone Line Installer

### Related Occupations

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Telecommunications Line and Cable Workers

# Telecommunications Line and Cable Workers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**250**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**8**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$20.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Telecommunications line and cable workers install, remove, maintain, and repair aerial and underground telephone and other telecommunication transmission and distribution lines, cables, and associated hardware. They splice and repair various types of wiring and cables using splicing tools and related electrical equipment and tools. These workers inspect and test overhead and underground lines and cables. To do this they must climb ladders or operate hydraulic buckets when working on poles and towers, or work in confined spaces such as trenches and tunnels.

### Skills

This work requires accuracy, caution, and attention to detail. You must be able to work to precise specifications and levels of safety when installing and repairing cables. Physical stamina, good hand-eye coordination, and an electrical aptitude are needed. You should also have a background in mathematics and sciences.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is generally required for employment in any of these occupations.
- Telecommunications line and cable workers are also required to have a combination of over three years' work experience in the trade and some industry-related or other specialized courses in electrical technology or electronics.

### Employment Outlook

The telecommunications industry is rapidly changing. Advances in telecommunications, such as fibre optics, and the deregulation of the telecommunications industry mean that there are now a wider variety of available services and a wider variety of employers for this occupational group. The amount of data that can be carried by communications lines through both analog data and digital signals has increased dramatically, and the price of these services has significantly decreased, increasing accessibility and affordability for users.

The largest growth in the telecommunications industry is in mobile telecommunications, cellular technology, and the Internet. It is anticipated that much of the research into telecommunications technology in the coming years will focus on wireless technology. The adoption of such technology in Nova Scotia would ultimately reduce dependency on telecommunications lines and cable infrastructure, and negatively affect demand for this occupational group.

The main employers of this occupational group in Nova Scotia are the telecommunications companies Aliant and Eastlink. Anticipated retirements in the coming years are expected to be the main contributing factor to job openings for this occupational group.

### Typical Jobs

Communications Cabling Specialist  
Telecommunications Cable Installer  
Telecommunications Line Installer  
Telephone Line Technician

### Related Occupations

Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related  
Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers  
Telecommunications Installation and Repair Workers  
Cable Television Service and Maintenance Technicians

# Tilesetters

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**110**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**4**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.25 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Tilesetters cover interior and exterior walls, floors, and ceilings with ceramic, marble, and quarry tile, mosaics or terrazzo. They are employed by construction companies and masonry contractors, or they may be self-employed.

### Skills

For these occupations, you should have physical stamina, agility, and coordination, and be capable of climbing, reaching, crouching, and handling heavy materials. While most of the work is done indoors, you must be willing to work outdoors and at heights. You must be able to perform basic mathematical calculations and

read blueprints and drafting specifications.

### Employment Requirements

- Tilesetter is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.

### Other Considerations

Jobs in the construction industry are strongly affected by seasonal changes and general economic conditions, and many jobs are on a project basis. As a

result, workers in these occupations should expect periods of unemployment throughout the year, with employment peaking in the summer months. The physical demands of this work may make it difficult for people to stay in these jobs for a long time.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available for qualified tilesetters.

### Employment Outlook

A decline in new housing construction will negatively affect this occupation in the coming years. However, growth in the renovations market should create some employment opportunities.

The average age of this occupation is 37 years, and retirements are not expected to contribute significantly to job openings in the coming years.

### Typical Jobs

Ceramic Tile Installer  
Marble Setter  
Marble Mason

### Related Occupations

Plaster and Drywall Installers  
Bricklayers  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related

# Train Crew Operating Occupations

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
**300**

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
**12**

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Railway locomotive engineers operate railway locomotives to transport passengers and freight.

They also operate communication systems, inspect assigned locomotives, and test operating controls and equipment.

Yard locomotive engineers operate locomotives within the yards of railway, industrial, or other establishments. They also perform switching operations and routine maintenance according to instructions.

Railway conductors, however, co-ordinate and supervise the activities of passenger and freight train crew members. They receive train orders, communicate with train crew, collect fares, and prepare train run reports.

Brakemen/women check train brakes and other systems and

equipment prior to train runs, and assist railway conductors in activities en route. They also communicate with train crew members, receive orders from traffic controllers, open and close track switches, set and release hand brakes, and assist with passenger travel.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should be responsible, reliable, and in good physical health. You must also be able to work on your own and carry out instructions given by your employer. Physical strength, stamina, and attention to detail are also assets.

### Employment Requirements

- Completion of high school is generally required to work in these occupations. Experience as a railway worker and a Level 'B' certificate of the Canadian Rail Operating Rules are required for becoming a brakeman/woman.
- Experience as a brakeman/woman and a Level 'A' certificate of the Canadian Rail Operating Rules are needed to become a conductor.
- Experience as a conductor and a Level 'A' certificate of the Canadian Rail Operating Rules are required for employment as a railway locomotive engineer.

### Employment Outlook

The railway is not a growing industry in Nova Scotia, and the number of employers for this occupation is limited. The average age of railway yard and locomotive engineers is 43 years, and the average age of railway conductors and brakemen/women is 45 years. Retirements are expected to contribute to some job openings in the coming years. Employment opportunities differ across Nova Scotia; prospects are best in the Halifax area.

### Typical Jobs

Switch Engineer  
Train Conductor  
Brakeman/woman



# Transport Equipment Operators and Ramp Attendants

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**1260**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**40**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**ABOVE AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$13.75 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

This group is made up of many workers who operate equipment in the transport industry.

Air transport ramp attendants operate ramp-servicing vehicles and equipment, handle cargo and passengers, and perform other ground support duties at airports. On the other hand, boat operators operate small boats or craft to transport passengers or freight, or sort and transport logs.

Loading bridge operators operate lock gates, bridges, and similar equipment. They also operate telecommunications equipment, control flow of passengers and their vehicles, and collect passage fares.

Railway yard workers regulate yard traffic, couple and uncouple trains, and perform related yard activities. Railway track maintenance workers operate machines and equipment to lay, maintain, and repair railway tracks. They operate railway machines and equipment used for maintaining railways, and patrol assigned track sections to identify and report damaged or broken track.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should have good health, physical stamina, and strength. Agility, coordination, and a mechanical aptitude would be helpful. You must be able to work methodically, take direction, work as a member of a team, and carry out instructions given by supervisors. On occasion, protective clothing, goggles, and safety boots must be worn. In these occupations, you may be exposed to noise and fumes. You must get along well with people, as workers in these occupations often deal directly with the public. For some jobs, you should be willing to travel long distances and for extended periods of time.

### Employment Requirements

- Most of these occupations require at least some high school education. Air transport ramp attendants require high school completion.
- Railway yard workers are required to have a Level 'B' certificate of the Canadian Rail Operating Rules.
- Boat operators are required to obtain a Master of a Small Craft or Master of a Small Passenger Craft certificate, issued by Transport Canada. To receive either of these certificates, you need at least six months of sea service, a letter from your employer, and the successful completion of three exams. You must also pass a vision test.
- Airport ramp attendants are usually required to have a driver's licence and a good driving record.
- On-the-job training is usually provided.

### Other Considerations

Many people in this occupation are self-employed, with seasonal peaks for those operating boat tours during the summer tourism season.

### Employment Outlook

Overall, employment in this group is expected to grow less than the average for all occupations. There is very little growth expected for occupations in the railway industry, as this industry is in a period of decline. Employment prospects for air transport ramp attendants are increasing slightly, after a period of job loss and volatility in the airline industry.

Employment prospects for this occupational group are expected to be best for boat operators. However, this is a very small group, with less than 20 individuals working across the province.

### Typical Jobs

Engine Room Crew, Ship  
Charter Boat Operator  
Airport Ramp Attendant  
Railway Track Maintenance Worker  
Ordinary Seaman/Woman  
Loading Bridge Operator

### Related Occupations

Ship's Captain and Other Deck  
Officers  
Fishing Vessel Masters, Skippers, and  
Fishermen/women  
Train Crew Operating Occupations  
Longshore Workers and Materials  
Handlers

# Truck Drivers

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**7160**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**GROWING**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**258**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$14.00 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Truck drivers operate heavy trucks to transport goods and materials over urban, inter-urban, provincial, and international routes. They must oversee all functions of the vehicle such as condition of equipment, loading and unloading, and safety and security of cargo.

### Skills

To work in these occupations, you should enjoy driving and be able to function under minimal supervision. You must be alert, responsible, and self-motivated. An awareness of safety is important. You must also get along well with people, as drivers often deal directly with customers. For some jobs, you should be willing to drive over extended periods of time and long distances. Long-haul drivers, especially, must have good map-reading skills and remain calm when driving in unfamiliar territory and navigating congested city traffic.

### Employment Requirements

- Truck drivers must have a clean driving record with no alcohol violations. To become a truck driver, you must be nineteen years of age and have had your driver's licence for two years.
- A certified truck driver training course offered by an accredited institution is also highly recommended to gain employment. Air brake endorsement may be required for truck drivers who operate vehicles equipped with air brakes.
- Drivers of semi-trailers and tractor trailers must have a Class One driver's licence and completion of a twelve-week internship program.
- Drivers of tandem-axle straight trucks must have a Class Three driver's licence.

### Employment Outlook

Employment of truck drivers is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations over the forecast period. Employment prospects are best for long-haul drivers. There are fewer opportunities for short-haul or straight truck drivers. New safety regulations that limit drivers' daily work hours will likely result in job gains. A decline in air, sea, and bus transportation in many areas of Nova Scotia has increased demand for this occupation. The planned improvements to Halifax's port by the Halifax Port Authority may also increase demand for this occupation in the coming years by increasing container ship activity.

This is a large occupation, with a workforce of approximately 7,200. The average age of this occupation is approximately 42 years, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Long Haul Truck Driver  
Tow Truck Driver  
Tractor Trailer Driver

### Related Occupations

Recording, Scheduling, and Distributing Occupations  
Heavy Equipment Operators  
Delivery Drivers

# Upholsterers, Jewellers, Shoemakers, and Related Trades

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated employment in 2005  
**900**

Estimated change in employment between 2005 and 2010  
**STABLE**

Estimated average annual number of job openings  
**47**

Estimated rate of unemployment in 2004  
**BELOW AVERAGE**

Estimated Average Earnings in 2005  
**\$9.50 HOURLY**

### Nature of the Work

Shoe repairers repair footwear, and shoemakers make specialized and custom shoes and boots.

Jewellers and related workers in this group fabricate, assemble, repair, and appraise fine jewellery. Watch repairers and related workers in this group repair, clean, adjust, and fabricate parts for clocks and watches.

Tailors and dressmakers manufacture custom-made and ready-to-wear garments and accessories. To do this, they design, fit, alter, restyle, and repair items. They may also be involved in detailed hand-sewing; and may produce garments according to customers' and manufacturers' specifications.

### Skills

Jewellers, locksmiths, and watch repairers should enjoy working with intricate mechanical and electrical parts. A delicate touch and attention to detail are essential. You must be patient and capable of precise and exact work. Good eyesight, motor skills, and hand-eye coordination are also necessary.

Creating garments requires good eyesight, patience, and the ability to perform detailed and intricate work. You must be able to follow directions closely and accept instructions from both clients and supervisors. Artistic imagination and craft skills are important for turning an idea into a garment. However, it is just as important to be capable of adapting your ideas to the tastes of others. You must have good hand-eye coordination. Accuracy and a sense of proportion are also necessary.

### Employment Requirements

- Generally, you must complete high school and may be required to have completed a college program in watch repair or jewellery to become a watch repairer or jeweller.
- There are currently no formal training or certification requirements to enter any of the other occupations in this group.
- Post-secondary education in the area of apparel studies would improve your chances for employment as a dressmaker or tailor in the manufacturing field.

### Other Considerations

Many tailors and dressmakers work under contract with a number of clothing stores. Their earnings and ability to stay in business depend upon the quality of their work and their ability to attract and keep clients.

Both part-time work and self-employment are common in these fields.

### Employment Outlook

Demand for these occupations is driven by growth in the personal and household services sector. This sector is projected to experience steady growth over the coming years. These occupations are somewhat sensitive to overall economic conditions, because some of these products are considered custom or luxury goods. This occupational group has an older workforce, and retirements are expected to contribute to job openings.

### Typical Jobs

Shoe Repairer  
Tailor  
Watch Repairer  
Dressmaker  
Automobile Upholsterer  
Furrier

### Related Occupations

Artisan, Craftsperson, and Related Occupations  
Fashion Designers, Jewellery Designers, and Similar Design Occupations  
Machine Operators in Fabric, Fur, and Leather Products Manufacturing

## Labour Market Information

## Outlook FAIR

Estimated  
employment in  
2005  
1900

Estimated change  
in employment  
between 2005  
and 2010  
GROWING

Estimated average  
annual number of  
job openings  
55

Estimated rate of  
unemployment  
in 2004  
ABOVE AVERAGE

Estimated Average  
Earnings in 2005  
\$17.25 HOURLY

### Nature of the Work

Welders fabricate and repair metal parts and structures.

They cut and join metal; interpret blueprints; and operate welding, flame-cutting, brazing and soldering equipment, and metal shaping machines.

These workers may specialize in certain types of welding, such as custom fabrication, ship building, and machinery/equipment repair.

Welders may be required to work in cramped, awkward places. Solder machine operators operate previously set up brazing or soldering machines to bond metal parts or to fill holes and seams of metal articles with solder.

### Skills

For this occupation you should enjoy working with your hands.

Good hand-eye coordination, physical strength, and stamina are necessary. You must also be cautious, alert, and able to concentrate over long periods of time. The ability to perform mathematical functions is helpful. In most cases, you must also be able to cooperate and coordinate your work with others.

### Employment Requirements

- Welder is a designated apprenticeship trade in Nova Scotia and completion of a welding course is highly recommended. Although you are not required by legislation to be certified as a Welder in the province of Nova Scotia, many Nova Scotia employers require you to be a registered apprentice or hold a Certificate of Qualification.
- Depending on the work area, certification or testing might be required by various standards-administration organizations.
- Completion of some high school, several months of on-the-job training, and experience as a machine operator may be necessary to work as a soldering machine operator.

### Other Considerations

Technology has affected these occupations. The use of computerized equipment has tended to make the work of welders physically less stressful and more precise. Welders are increasingly expected to document and maintain records, due to more stringent laws and regulations. This places more responsibility on supervisors, quality control personnel, and the individuals who perform the shaping and assembly of components.

Shiftwork is common in these trades.

The wage rate for apprentices is usually a percentage of the journeyman rate, increasing upon completion of each stage of the apprenticeship program.

Red Seal trade certification (allowing for interprovincial mobility) is available to qualified welders.

### Employment Outlook

This is a large occupational group in Nova Scotia, with approximately 1,900 welders and related machine operators across the province. Demand for these occupations stems from industrial, commercial, and infrastructure construction activity, which is expected to remain stable. This occupational group can be highly sensitive to overall economic conditions.

### Typical Jobs

Precision Welder  
Spot Welder  
Structural Steel Welder  
Solder Machine Operator  
Aircraft Welder

### Related Occupations

Commercial Divers  
Contractors and Supervisors, Trades and Related





## Appendixes



# Appendix A

The major occupational groups used in the Career Options handbook and website are listed here. Each Career Options occupation is made up of one or more National Occupational Classification (NOC) groupings. The NOC groupings are listed for each Career Options occupation, along with the four-digit NOC codes. The NOC system, which categorizes jobs by type and skill level, was developed by the Government of Canada and is used in the collection and analysis of labour market information.

<b>Accountants and Financial Auditors.....</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Architectural Technicians and Technologists.....</b>	<b>81</b>
1111 Financial Auditors and Accountants		2251 Architectural Technologists and Technicians	
<b>Actors .....</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>Archivists .....</b>	<b>119</b>
5135 Actors and Comedians		5113 Archivists	
<b>Administrative Officers .....</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Artisans, Craftpersons, and Related Occupations .....</b>	<b>119</b>
1221 Administrative Officers		5244 Artisans and Craftpersons	
<b>Administrative Support Clerks .....</b>	<b>23</b>	5245 Patternmakers - Textile, Leather and Fur Products	
1441 Administrative Clerks		<b>Assemblers, Electrical Appliance and Industrial Motors .....</b>	<b>172</b>
1442 Personnel Clerks		9484 Assemblers and Inspectors, Electrical Appliance, Apparatus and Equipment Manufacturing	
1443 Court Clerks		<b>Assemblers and Fabricators, Industrial Electrical Equipment .....</b>	<b>173</b>
<b>Advertising, Management, and Promotion Consultants .....</b>	<b>24</b>	9485 Assemblers, Fabricators and Inspectors, Industrial Electrical Motors and Transformers	
1122 Professional Occupations in Business Services to Management		<b>Assessors and Appraisers.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Aerospace Engineers.....</b>	<b>76</b>	1235 Assessors, Valuers, and Appraisers	
2146 Aerospace Engineers		<b>Athletes, Coaches, Sports Officials, and Recreation Programmers.....</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Agricultural and Fish Products Inspectors .....</b>	<b>77</b>	5251 Athletes	
2222 Agricultural and Fish Products Inspectors		5252 Coaches	
<b>Agriculture and Horticulture Workers .....</b>	<b>160</b>	5253 Sports Officials and Referees	
8431 General Farm Workers		5254 Program Leaders and Instructors in Recreation and Sport	
8432 Nursery and Greenhouse Workers		<b>Audio and Video Recording Technicians .....</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Air Pilots, Flight Engineers, and Flying Instructors.....</b>	<b>78</b>	5225 Audio and Video Recording Technicians	
2271 Air Pilots, Flight Engineers, and Flying Instructors		<b>Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists.....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Air Traffic Control Occupations.....</b>	<b>79</b>	3141 Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists	
2272 Air Traffic Control and Related Occupations		<b>Babysitters and Nannies .....</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>Aircraft Assemblers and Assembly Inspectors .....</b>	<b>172</b>	6474 Babysitters, Nannies, and Parents' Helpers	
9481 Aircraft Assemblers and Aircraft Assembly Inspectors		<b>Bakers .....</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>Aircraft Technicians and Inspectors.....</b>	<b>210</b>	6252 Bakers	
7315 Aircraft Mechanics and Aircraft Inspectors		<b>Biological Technicians and Technologists .....</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Airline Sales and Service Agents .....</b>	<b>186</b>	2221 Biological Technologists and Technicians	
6433 Airline Sales and Service Agents		<b>Biologists and Related Scientists .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Animal Health Technicians .....</b>	<b>48</b>	2121 Biologists and Related Scientists	
3213 Veterinary and Animal Health Technologists and Technicians		<b>Biomedical, Marine, and Other Engineers.....</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Announcers and Other Broadcasters.....</b>	<b>118</b>	2148 Other Professional Engineers, n.e.c.	
5231 Announcers and Other Broadcasters		<b>Boat Builders, Furniture Assemblers, and Related Occupations .....</b>	<b>174</b>
<b>Aquaculture Operators and Managers.....</b>	<b>161</b>	9491 Boat Assemblers and Inspectors	
8257 Aquaculture Operators and Managers		9492 Furniture and Fixture Assemblers and Inspectors	
<b>Architects.....</b>	<b>80</b>	9493 Other Wood Products Assemblers and Inspectors	
2151 Architects		9494 Furniture Finishers and Refinishers	
		9495 Plastic Products Assemblers, Finishers, and Inspectors	
		9496 Painters and Coaters - Industrial	
		9497 Plating, Metal Spraying and Related Operators	
		9498 Other Assemblers and Inspectors	
		<b>Boilermakers.....</b>	<b>211</b>
		7262 Boilermakers	

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<b>Bookkeepers</b> .....	<b>26</b>	<b>Civil, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering Technicians and Technologists</b> .....	<b>88</b>
1231 Bookkeepers		2231 Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	
<b>Bricklayers</b> .....	<b>211</b>	2232 Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	
7281 Bricklayers		2233 Industrial Engineering and Manufacturing Technologists and Technicians	
<b>Broadcast Technicians</b> .....	<b>122</b>	2234 Construction Estimators	
5224 Broadcast Technicians		<b>Clerical Workers in Finance and Insurance</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Bus Drivers and Other Transit Drivers</b> .....	<b>212</b>	1431 Accounting and Related Clerks	
7412 Bus Drivers and Subway and Other Transit Operators		1432 Payroll Clerks	
<b>Business Development Officers and Marketing Researchers and Consultants</b> .....	<b>138</b>	1433 Customer Service Representatives - Financial Services	
4163 Business Development Officers and Marketing Researchers and Consultants		1434 Banking, Insurance, and Other Financial Clerks	
<b>Butchers</b> .....	<b>187</b>	1435 Collectors	
6251 Butchers and Meat Cutters - Retail and Wholesale		<b>Clerical Workers, General Office Skills</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>By-Law Enforcement and Other Regulatory Officers</b> .....	<b>188</b>	1411 General Office Clerks	
6463 By-law Enforcement and Other Regulatory Officers, n.e.c.		1413 Records Management and Filing Clerks	
<b>Cabinetmakers</b> .....	<b>212</b>	1414 Receptionists and Switchboard Operators	
7272 Cabinetmakers		<b>Clerical Workers, Office Equipment Operators</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>Cable Television Service and Maintenance</b> .....	<b>213</b>	1422 Data Entry Clerks	
7247 Cable Television Service and Maintenance Technicians		1423 Desktop Publishing Operators and Related Occupations	
<b>Canadian Forces Occupations</b> .....	<b>46</b>	1424 Telephone Operators	
6464 Other Ranks, Armed Forces		<b>College and Other Vocational Instructors</b> .....	<b>139</b>
<b>Cardiology Technologists</b> .....	<b>49</b>	4131 College and Other Vocational Instructors	
3217 Cardiology Technologists		<b>Commercial Divers</b> .....	<b>215</b>
<b>Carpenters</b> .....	<b>214</b>	7382 Commercial Divers	
7271 Carpenters		<b>Community and Social Service Workers</b> .....	<b>140</b>
<b>Casino Occupations</b> .....	<b>188</b>	4212 Community and Social Service Workers	
6443 Casino Occupations		<b>Computer Engineers</b> .....	<b>89</b>
<b>Central Control and Process Operators in Manufacturing and Processing</b> .....	<b>175</b>	2147 Computer Engineers (Except Software Engineers)	
9231 Central Control and Process Operators, Mineral and Metal Processing		<b>Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers</b> .....	<b>89</b>
9232 Petroleum, Gas, and Chemical Process Operators		2174 Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers	
9233 Pulping Control Operators		<b>Computer Support Technicians</b> .....	<b>90</b>
9234 Papermaking and Coating Control Operators		2281 Computer and Network Operators and Web Technicians	
<b>Chefs</b> .....	<b>189</b>	2282 User Support Technicians	
6241 Chefs		2283 Systems Testing Technicians	
<b>Chemical Engineers</b> .....	<b>85</b>	<b>Concrete Finishers</b> .....	<b>215</b>
2134 Chemical Engineers		7282 Concrete Finishers	
<b>Chemists</b> .....	<b>86</b>	<b>Conference and Event Planners</b> .....	<b>29</b>
2112 Chemists		1226 Conference and Event Planners	
<b>Chiropractors</b> .....	<b>49</b>	<b>Conservation and Fishery Officers</b> .....	<b>91</b>
3122 Chiropractors		2224 Conservation and Fishery Officers	
<b>Civil Engineers</b> .....	<b>87</b>	<b>Conservators and Curators</b> .....	<b>122</b>
2131 Civil Engineers		5112 Conservators and Curators	
		<b>Construction and Other Trades Helpers and Labourers</b> .....	<b>216</b>
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		7612 Other Trades Helpers and Labourers	

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7311 Construction Millwrights and Industrial Mechanics (Except Textile)		7372 Drillers and Blasters - Surface Mining, Quarrying and Construction	
<b>Continuing Care Assistants and Health Support Workers.....</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Early Childhood Educators and Assistants.....</b>	<b>191</b>
3413 Nurse Aides, Orderlies, and Patient Service Associates		4214 Early Childhood Educators and Assistants	
<b>Contractors and Supervisors, Trade and Related.....</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts.....</b>	<b>141</b>
7211 Supervisors, Machinists and Related Occupations		4162 Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts	
7212 Contractors and Supervisors, Electrical Trades and Telecommunications Occupations		<b>Editors.....</b>	<b>123</b>
7213 Contractors and Supervisors, Pipefitting Trades		5122 Editors	
7214 Contractors and Supervisors, Metal Forming, Shaping, and Erecting Trades		<b>Education Policy Researchers and Officers.....</b>	<b>142</b>
7215 Contractors and Supervisors, Carpentry Trades		4166 Education Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers	
7216 Contractors and Supervisors, Mechanic Trades		<b>Electrical and Electronics Engineers.....</b>	<b>93</b>
7217 Contractors and Supervisors, Heavy Construction Equipment Crews		2133 Electrical and Electronics Engineers	
7218 Supervisors, Printing, and Related Occupations		<b>Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers.....</b>	<b>219</b>
7219 Contractors and Supervisors, Other Construction Trades, Installers, Repairers and Servicers		7244 Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers	
<b>Cooks.....</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>Electricians.....</b>	<b>220</b>
6242 Cooks		7241 Electricians (Except Industrial and Power System)	
<b>Correctional Services Officers.....</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>Electroencephalographic and Other Diagnostic Technologists.....</b>	<b>54</b>
6462 Correctional Service Officers		3218 Electroencephalographic and Other Diagnostic Technologists, n.e.c.	
<b>Court Officers and Justices of the Peace.....</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Electronics and Electrical Engineering Technicians and Technologists.....</b>	<b>94</b>
1227 Court Officers and Justices of the Peace		2241 Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians	
<b>Court Recorders and Medical Transcriptionists.....</b>	<b>30</b>	2242 Electronic Service Technicians (Household and Business Equipment)	
1244 Court Recorders and Medical Transcriptionists		2243 Industrial Instrument Technicians and Mechanics	
<b>Crane Operators.....</b>	<b>218</b>	2244 Aircraft Instrument, Electrical, and Avionics Mechanics, Technicians and Inspectors	
7371 Crane Operators		<b>Electronics Assemblers, Fabricators, and Testers.....</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Customs, Ship, and Other Brokers.....</b>	<b>31</b>	9483 Electronics Assemblers, Fabricators, Inspectors and Testers	
1236 Customs, Ship, and Other Brokers		<b>Emergency Medical Technicians.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Dancers.....</b>	<b>123</b>	3234 Ambulance Attendants and Other Paramedical Occupations	
5134 Dancers		<b>Employment Counsellors.....</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>Database Analysts and Data Administrators.....</b>	<b>92</b>	4213 Employment Counsellors	
2172 Database Analysts and Data Administrators		<b>Estheticians, Electrologists, and Related Occupations.....</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>Delivery Drivers.....</b>	<b>218</b>	6482 Estheticians, Electrologists, and Related Occupations	
7414 Delivery and Courier Service Drivers		<b>Executive Assistants.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Dental Assistants.....</b>	<b>50</b>	1222 Executive Assistants	
3411 Dental Assistants		<b>Family Physicians.....</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Dental Hygienists.....</b>	<b>51</b>	3112 General Practitioners and Family Physicians	
3222 Dental Hygienists and Dental Therapists		<b>Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors.....</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Dental Technologists and Technicians.....</b>	<b>51</b>	4153 Family, Marriage, and Other Related Counsellors	
3223 Dental Technologists, Technicians, and Laboratory Bench Workers		<b>Farm Supervisors, Horse Trainers, and Other Specialized Livestock Workers.....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Dentists.....</b>	<b>52</b>	8253 Farm Supervisors and Specialized Livestock Workers	
3113 Dentists		<b>Farmers and Farm Managers.....</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Dieticians and Nutritionists.....</b>	<b>53</b>	8251 Farmers and Farm Managers	
3132 Dietitians and Nutritionists			
<b>Drafting Technicians and Technologists.....</b>	<b>92</b>		
2253 Drafting Technologists and Technicians			



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5243 Theatre, Fashion, Exhibit, and Other Creative Designers		4169 Other Professional Occupations in Social Science	
<b>Film and Video Camera Operators .....</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>Hotel Front Desk Clerks .....</b>	<b>197</b>
5222 Film and Video Camera Operators		6435 Hotel Front Desk Clerks	
<b>Financial and Investment Analysts .....</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Human Resources Officers and Specialists .....</b>	<b>34</b>
1112 Financial and Investment Analysts		1121 Specialists in Human Resources	
<b>Financial Planners and Other Financial Officers .....</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>Immigration, Employment Insurance, and Revenue Officers .....</b>	<b>35</b>
1114 Other Financial Officers		1228 Immigration, Employment Insurance, and Revenue Officers	
<b>Firefighters .....</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>Industrial and Manufacturing Engineers .....</b>	<b>99</b>
6262 Fire-fighters		2141 Industrial and Manufacturing Engineers	
<b>Fishing Vessel Deckhands, Trappers, and Hunters .....</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>Industrial Designers .....</b>	<b>100</b>
8441 Fishing Vessel Deckhands		2252 Industrial Designers	
8442 Trappers and Hunters		<b>Industrial Electricians .....</b>	<b>222</b>
<b>Fishing Vessel Masters, Skippers, and Fishermen/women .....</b>	<b>164</b>	7242 Industrial Electricians	
8261 Fishing Masters and Officers		<b>Information Systems Analysts and Consultants .....</b>	<b>101</b>
8262 Fishing Vessel Skippers and Fishermen/women		2171 Information Systems Analysts and Consultants	
<b>Food and Beverage Service Occupations .....</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>Information, Correspondence, and Library Clerks .....</b>	<b>36</b>
6451 Maitres d'hôtel and Hosts/Hostesses		1451 Library Clerks	
6452 Bartenders		1452 Correspondence, Publication, and Related Clerks	
6453 Food and Beverage Servers		1453 Customer Service, Information, and Related Clerks	
<b>Foresters .....</b>	<b>96</b>	1454 Survey Interviewers and Statistical Clerks	
2122 Forestry Professionals		<b>Instructors and Teachers of Disabled Persons .....</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Forestry Technicians and Technologists .....</b>	<b>97</b>	4215 Instructors and Teachers of Persons with Disabilities	
2223 Forestry Technologists and Technicians		<b>Insurance Adjustors and Claims Examiners .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Funeral Directors and Embalmers .....</b>	<b>195</b>	1233 Insurance Adjustors and Claims Examiners	
6272 Funeral Directors and Embalmers		<b>Insurance Agents and Brokers .....</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Gas Fitters .....</b>	<b>220</b>	6231 Insurance Agents and Brokers	
7253 Gas Fitters		<b>Insurance Underwriters .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Geologists and Oceanographers .....</b>	<b>98</b>	1234 Insurance Underwriters	
2113 Geologists, Geochemists, and Geophysicists		<b>Interior Designers .....</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Graphic Arts Technicians .....</b>	<b>125</b>	5242 Interior Designers	
5223 Graphic Arts Technicians		<b>Ironworkers .....</b>	<b>222</b>
<b>Graphic Designers .....</b>	<b>126</b>	7264 Ironworkers	
5241 Graphic Designers and Illustrators		<b>Journalists .....</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Hairstylists and Barbers .....</b>	<b>196</b>	5123 Journalists	
6271 Hairstylists and Barbers		<b>Judges and Lawyers .....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>Health, Social Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers .....</b>	<b>145</b>	4111 Judges	
4165 Health Policy Researchers, Consultants, and Program Officers		4112 Lawyers and Quebec Notaries	
<b>Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics .....</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>Labourers in Primary Industry .....</b>	<b>165</b>
7312 Heavy-Duty Equipment Mechanics		8611 Harvesting Labourers	
<b>Heavy Equipment Operators .....</b>	<b>221</b>	8612 Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Labourers	
7421 Heavy Equipment Operators (Except Crane)		8613 Aquaculture and Marine Harvest Labourers	
7422 Public Works Maintenance Equipment Operators		8614 Mine Labourers	
		8615 Oil and Gas Drilling, Servicing, and Related Labourers	
		8616 Logging and Forestry Labourers	



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9612 Labourers in Metal Fabrication	
9613 Labourers in Chemical Products Processing and Utilities	
9614 Labourers in Wood, Pulp, and Paper Processing	
9615 Labourers in Rubber and Plastic Products Manufacturing	
9616 Labourers in Textile Processing	
9617 Labourers in Food, Beverage, and Tobacco Processing	
9618 Labourers in Fish Processing	
9619 Other Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing, and Utilities	
<b>Landscape and Horticultural Technicians and Specialists .....</b>	<b>102</b>
2225 Landscape and Horticultural Technicians and Specialists	
<b>Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Contractors .....</b>	<b>165</b>
8255 Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Contractors and Managers	
<b>Legal Secretaries .....</b>	<b>38</b>
1242 Legal Secretaries	
<b>Librarians .....</b>	<b>128</b>
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# Appendix B • Educational Institutions in Nova Scotia

*Note: novascotiacaereroptions.ca will link you with the training options for each occupation.*

## Universities and Colleges

### Acadia University

Wolfville, NS  
Phone: 902-542-2200  
[www.acadiau.ca](http://www.acadiau.ca)

### Atlantic School of Theology

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-423-6939  
[www.astheology.ns.ca](http://www.astheology.ns.ca)

### Cape Breton University

Sydney, NS  
Phone: 1-888-959-9995  
[www.capebretonu.ca](http://www.capebretonu.ca)

### Dalhousie University

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-494-2450  
[www.dal.ca](http://www.dal.ca)

### Mount Saint Vincent University

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-457-6128  
[www.msvu.ca](http://www.msvu.ca)

### Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Truro, NS  
Phone: 902-893-6722  
[www.nsac.ca](http://www.nsac.ca)

### Nova Scotia Community College

[www.nsccl.ca](http://www.nsccl.ca)

#### Campuses:

Bridgewater  
Phone: 902-543-4508

Dartmouth  
Phone: 902-491-4900

Halifax: Downtown  
Phone: 902-491-1622

Halifax: Institute of Technology  
Phone: 902-491-6722

Kentville  
Phone: 902-678-7341

Lawrencetown  
Phone: 902-825-2930

Port Hawkesbury  
Phone: 902-625-4017

Shelburne  
Phone: 902-875-8640

Springhill  
Phone: 902-597-3737

Stellarton  
Phone: 902-752-2002

Sydney  
Phone: 902-563-2450

Truro  
Phone: 902-893-5436

Yarmouth  
Phone: 902-742-0760

### NSCAD University

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-494-8129  
[www.nscad.ns.ca](http://www.nscad.ns.ca)

### St. Francis Xavier University

Antigonish, NS  
Phone: 902-867-2219  
[www.stfx.ca](http://www.stfx.ca)

### Saint Mary's University

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-420-5415  
[www.smu.ca](http://www.smu.ca)

### University of King's College

Halifax, NS  
Phone: 902-422-1271  
[www.ukings.ns.ca](http://www.ukings.ns.ca)

### Université Sainte-Anne

[www.usainteanne.ca](http://www.usainteanne.ca)

#### Campuses:

Pointe-de-l'Église  
Phone: 902-769-2114

Halifax  
Phone: 902-424-2630

Petit-de-Grat  
Phone: 902-226-3900

Saint-Joseph-du-Moine  
Phone: 902-224-4100

Tusket  
Phone: 902-648-3524

## Private Career Collegees

Visit [pcc.ednet.ns.ca](http://pcc.ednet.ns.ca) for a current list of registered programs offered by Nova Scotia's private career colleges.

### Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning

[nssal.ednet.ns.ca](http://nssal.ednet.ns.ca)

### Adult Education Section Field Offices

Metro Region  
Phone: 902-424-8421

Cape Breton Region  
Phone: 902-563-2270

Valley Region  
Phone: 902-679-6204

Northern Region  
Phone: 902-893-7200

Southwestern Region  
Phone: 902-543-2376

Strait Region  
Phone: 902-625-4031

Mi'kmaw Community  
Phone: 902-424-5165

Acadian Community  
Phone: 902-424-5547





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